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Bus bomb kills nine in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Jan 25, (UPI): Nine people were killed and 24 were injured today when a bomb exploded at a bus depot in the town of Mingorah, about 120 miles (200 km) from Peshawar, authorities said.

The bomb was placed near a Lahore-bound government bus scheduled to depart at 3:30 pm, authorities said. The bomb exploded at about 2:45 pm, while about 30 passengers waited on the bus.

Hospital sources said nine bodies were brought to their facility with 24 injured, three of them in serious condition. The injured included two women and a child, they said.

Closed.

Soon after the blast, the bazaars of Mingorah and the adjacent town of Saidu Sharif in the Swat district were closed and protesting residents demanded authorities arrest the bomber. Police said they had no clues.

Many of the bodies were mutilated beyond recognition, the sources said.

It was the first bomb blast in the Swat district since a campaign of sabotage began in the North Western Frontier Province in the early 1980's against Afghan rebel forces.

The Mingorah blast follows two explosions on Friday in Jalalabad, Afghanistan at the funeral of independence leader Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan.

Those blasts occurred in a parking area for vehicles bringing about 80,000 Pakistani mourners to Jalalabad for the funeral ceremony. About 17 people were killed and 53 were injured.

Tibetans detained.

SARNAATH, (AP): More than 5,000 Tibetans have been arrested and many of them tortured in China since last year's pro-independence demonstrations in Tibet, according to the Dalai Lama.

INSIDE

22-Page Issue today. A five-page supplement on India

International 2
Kuwait-Gulf 3
Events 4
Pictures 5
Editorials 6
Feature 12
Business 13, 16
Stocks 14, 15
Junior Times 17
Classifieds 18
Urdu 19, 20
Sports 21, 22

Games
ABABA
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Cuba
Nepal
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Bonn backs Mubarak's Mideast peace plan

BONN, Jan 25, (Reuters): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak won West German support for his new Middle East peace initiative today at the start of a whirlwind diplomatic tour bolstered by the restoration of Egypt's high profile in the Arab world.

Mubarak held four hours of talks with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Richard Voo Weizsaecker in Bonn on a peace plan that he also will present to Britain, the United States, France, Italy and Morocco over the next 12 days.

Kohl told reporters after meeting Mubarak that the European Economic Community (EEC), currently chaired by West Germany, would encourage moves toward an international Middle East peace conference at its Feb 11-12 summit in Brussels.

Support

"I again assured (Mubarak) of my support for such a peace conference and I will put it on the agenda of the EEC summit," the Chancellor said.

Last week, Mubarak unveiled a regional peace plan under which Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip would renounce violent opposition for at least six months while Israel stopped further provocative Jewish settlements in the territories and accepted a peace conference.

"In the EEC, we want in our coming talks to set in motion a process to support this initiative," Kohl said.

The Egyptian President, for his part, said an international conference was "the only option for a solution" in the Middle East.

Mubarak was scheduled to take his campaign to London later today and tomorrow to the

United States, where he will meet President Reagan for the first time since 1985.

Western diplomats said Mubarak was likely to get a positive reception on his tour because of growing international alarm over Palestinian unrest in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank coupled with Egypt's renewed prestige among Arab states.

Mended

"Mubarak has mended his fences with much of the Arab world, so he speaks with much more authority abroad now than he did in his previous trips to promote Middle East peace plans," a Western diplomat in Bonn said.

Thirty-nine Palestinian demonstrators have been killed by Israeli troops and more than 300 injured since Dec 9 in the most sustained outbreak of unrest in the territories Israel seized from Egypt and Jordan in the 1967 Six-Day War.

Israel's harsh suppression of the protests, as well as an apparent policy of physical beatings to quell resistance, has raised an uproar abroad and stepped up pressure for solutions to the seemingly intractable Middle East conflict.

Results

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher held talks in Israel over the weekend and went to Brussels today to discuss the results with EEC colleagues.

Genscher urged Israel to accept an international peace conference and called on the United States and Soviet Union to get involved in finding solutions to the conflict.

A serious obstacle to even finding a negotiating forum for Middle East peace is longstanding disunity within Israel's coalition government.

Peace conference opposed

Shamir offers direct talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 25, (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has opposed an international peace conference on Middle East but he wanted to meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein of Jordan "face to face, openly or secretly, formally or informally, to discuss peace with them," his spokesman said.

Spokesman Avi Pazner said the Arab leaders urged Shamir to endorse an international Middle East peace conference. He said Mubarak proposed to set the stage for talks with an Israeli promise to halt building settlements in the occupied lands in return for a Palestinian pledge to refrain from anti-Israeli violence for six months.

"Shamir has not yet replied to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak," Pazner said. "But he will tell him he does not accept the President's proposals."

Cause

Outlining his opposition to reporters, Shamir said: "An international conference will not serve the cause of peace. It will be a stage for anti-Israeli propaganda, and not a framework for serious negotiations between the parties. It will be an attempt to dictate, to impose solutions."

But Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, a liberal political rival of Shamir, welcomed the thrust of Mubarak's call.

"I welcome the Mubarak initiative as a step in the right direction," Peres said in a statement issued by the Foreign

Ministry. "The call for an immediate end to all violent activity is most positive."

Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubenstein flew to the United States today for talks with American officials, and Israel radio said he would give Shamir's response to recent Middle East peace proposals.

The UN Security Council will meet on Wednesday to consider Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report on the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the United Nations announced.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat vowed yesterday that unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip would continue and said Israel must take the first step towards the mutual recognition with the PLO.

● Kuwait News Agency adds: Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad returned to Kuwait this evening from Tunis where he took part in deliberations of the emergency Arab foreign ministers' conference which discussed the situation in the occupied Arab lands and the uprising.

Sheikh Sabah said on arrival that the decisions adopted by the Arab foreign ministers were up to the expectations of the Palestinian people who seek liberation and national independence.

He said the uprising in the occupied Arab territories further enhanced the credibility of the joint Arab political stand towards the Palestinian cause.



West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (right) and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak face the reporters during a joint statement made after their meeting. (Reuters wirephoto)

France denies accord on minesweeping

PARIS, Jan 25, (Reuters): The French Navy denied today that it had reached an accord with Britain and Italy to work jointly to sweep mines out of the Gulf.

Italy had earlier denied a Washington Post report that the three countries had agreed to coordinate operations and to keep at least five minesweepers on duty at any one time.

The report, published on Sunday, said US administration officials hoped the accord would blunt congressional criticism of the cost burden of US operations in the Gulf.

"There is no agreement and the situation has not changed," a French Navy spokesman said. "The French Navy is acting for national interests."

Ship

Iraq said its jets attacked a ship near the Iranian coast in the northern Gulf today.

A military spokesman said the planes scored "an accurate and effective hit" on a large naval target — Baghdad's term for an oil tanker or other large merchant ship.

Iraq's last confirmed strike on Gulf shipping in its tanker war with Iran was against the shuttle tanker Shirko on Saturday.

Libyan envoy shot dead

LAGOS, Jan 25, (Reuters): Libya's Charge d'Affaires in Nigeria was shot dead in Lagos yesterday, official sources said.

Details of his death were sketchy but the sources, who declined to be identified, said he was killed in the Mile Two area of the capital.

The Charge d'Affaires is named as Ahubekar Kanna in the latest official list of diplomats in Lagos.

An unidentified man at the Libyan Embassy, who said he

was a local employee, said today that Kanna was the Charge d'Affaires and was dead, but would not elaborate.

A senior African diplomatic source said he had heard informally about the killing but was awaiting confirmation from Nigeria's External Affairs Ministry.

The official Nigerian sources said the Minister of State at the Ministry, Mammo Aoka, would fly to Tripoli tomorrow in connection with the incident.

Strike paralyzes Chittagong as death toll mounts

Opposition vows to meet violence with violence

DHAKA, Jan 25, (Agencies): Bangladesh halted today rallies and protests hours after the opposition vowed to meet violence with violence. They said they killed at least 17 people at a weekend rally.

The government order, apparently aimed at preventing dissent against parliamentary elections in March which the opposition has threatened to boycott.

Unchallenged

"Any public rally or indoor meeting or march designed to create opinion against the election will be illegal," the order said.

The opposition has said 17 people died when riot police opened fire at an opposition anti-

election rally in Chittagong yesterday. Three hundred people were hurt.

"Their death shall not go unchallenged. Violence shall now be met by violence," Hasina told a news conference earlier today.

"It was a dastardly attack on people who practise democracy," she said soon after returning from Chittagong.

Hasina, leader of the Awami League, gave no details of her plans but the opposition has called a nationwide day of protest and 12-hour general strike tomorrow.

The Home Ministry said eight people died and 100 were injured, including some police.

Seven people died today from wounds suffered in the violence.

THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Bharat Ratna

NEW DELHI, (AP): The Indian government yesterday gave the nation's highest civilian award, Bharat Ratna, to late M.G. Ramachandran, a key Tamil leader who played an important role in peace negotiations with Sri Lankan Tamil militants.

Glen King dies

WEST CHESTER, (AP): Dr Charles Glen King, the outdoorsman who isolated vitamin C from the juice of lemons in 1932, has died of heart failure at the age of 91.

Plane crash

MOSCOW, (Reuters): A Soviet YAK-40 passenger plane crashed in northern Siberia on Sunday, killing an unspecified number of people. Tass news agency reported yesterday.

Truck crash

LIMA, (Reuters): At least 43 Peruvian peasants were killed and 20 injured when a truck they were riding to left a mountain road and plunged into a river, police said yesterday.

Al Mays dies

BEIRUT, (UPI): Another member of Parliament Hassan Al Mays died yesterday raising to 20 the number of deputies who have died and not been replaced since the last elections were held 16 years ago. Al Mays, died of natural causes.

Headmaster killed

CHANDIGARH, (Reuters): Suspected Sikh separatists shot dead a Hindu school headmaster and a Sikh politician in unabated violence in the north Indian state of Punjab, police said.

Hoyos kidnapped

BOGOTA, (Reuters): Gunmen kidnapped Colombia's Attorney General Carlos Mauro Hoyos and killed two of his bodyguards near the city of Medellin, police said.

Food aid

DHAKA, (Reuters): The World Food Programme (WFP) will give Bangladesh food aid worth \$69 million to help nearly 600,000 women and children, WFP said.

Gurkha talks

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): Talks aimed at settling a two-year conflict in the Himalayan foothills in which more than 200 people have died opened yesterday with Gurkha leader Subhas Ghising confident of success.

Surinam

PARAMARIBO, (Reuters): Surinam returned to democracy yesterday with the inauguration of Ramswar Shookar as President, formally marking the end of eight years of military rule in the South American country.

Kielty shot dead

DUNDURUM, (Reuters): A Roman Catholic company director, Jack Kielty, who ran a building firm, was shot dead at his desk in Northern Ireland yesterday, police said.

Antiques

NICOSIA, (Reuters): An Iranian smuggling gang which illegally excavated 3,000-year-old bronze artefacts has been smashed by law enforcement agents, the national news agency Inra reported.

Jayewardene proposes treaty with India

NEW DELHI, Jan 25, (Reuters): Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi discussed today enjoining a controversial peace pact which has so far failed to end a Tamil rebellion.

The two leaders met for 90 minutes to review the July 1987 accord under which New Delhi has sent more than 37,000 troops to Sri Lanka, an Indian spokesman told reporters.

Both men have been criticised by their domestic opposition because India troops have failed to disarm the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas and restore peace to the north and east of the Indian Ocean island.

Proposed

Rajiv urged Jayewardene to set up an elected provincial council in the north and east as proposed in the pact to give limited autonomy to the minority Tamils. Jayewardene has said elections would be held after peace was restored.

The guerrillas rejected the accord and pressed ahead with their four-year-old war for a Tamil homeland which has killed more than 8,000 people in Sinhalese-majority Sri Lanka.

"Rajiv stressed the importance of reviving the political process to bring back normalcy as envisaged in the agreement," the spokesman said. Jayewardene told Rajiv he "looked forward to the creation of conditions which would allow early elections," the spokesman said.

Both leaders are under pressure to make the July accord work. Rajiv's critics accuse him of getting Indian troops bogged down in a war against Tamils whose cause New Delhi once championed.



Rajiv Gandhi (left) greets Jayewardene as Indian President R. Venkataraman looks on, during arrival ceremonies at the Presidential Palace in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rich in US getting richer

WASHINGTON, Jan 25, (AP): Most Americans believe the rich have gotten richer during Reagan's presidency, but half think the poor are worse off than they were when the President took office, according to a survey released today.

The poll, conducted for USA Today and Cable News network to measure public sentiment as Reagan delivers his final State of the Union address tonight also found that 53 per cent of those surveyed believe they are better off now than when the Reagan years began. Twenty-nine per cent think their personal situation is about the same, and 17 per cent said they are worse off.

Thirty-three per cent believe the

nation as a whole is doing better than it was seven years ago, while 28 per cent think things are worse and 34 per cent say things are about the same nationally as they were then.

The survey also found a belief that the gap between America's rich and poor is widening. Seventy-two per cent of those surveyed thought the rich are better off than they were seven years ago, while 50 per cent believe the poor are doing worse than they were at the start of the Reagan presidency.

The telephone survey of 805 randomly selected adults was conducted by Gordon S. Black Corp. on Jan 15-18.

DAY BY DAY

"KEEP the environment clean" and "keep the desert clean" are slogans read every day. However, we wish Municipality officials would go out to the desert and see for themselves the amount of litter people have left and how cruel man has been in nature, in spite of frequent government calls exhorting people to protect the environment.

The Municipality is also invited to take a look at the litter left along roads after construction in the chalet areas.

All we need is more educational programmes to help people realise and appreciate the value of the environment and the importance of keeping it clean.

Zahed Matar

Aborigines jump into harbour in gift protest

SYDNEY, Jan 25. (Reuters): Four Aborigines carrying tribal flags leapt into Sydney harbour today to try and disrupt the presentation of a majestic sailing ship by Britain to Australia for its bicentenary.

Princess Charles and Lady Diana attended the presentation of the 44-metre two-masted brigantine Young Endeavour near the city's famous opera house—about 500 metres from a makeshift camp where hundreds of aborigines have gathered to stage demonstrations.

Police divers quickly hauled out the protesters as thousands of other Australians carrying welcome placards gave a rousing reception to the royal couple.

Princess Charles will take the salute on Tuesday when the Young Endeavour leads 200 tall ships from Australia and 40 other countries in a "parade of sail" to mark 200 years of white settlement.

The Aborigines, who make up one per cent of the 16 million Australians, have declared the bicentennial "a year of mourning" because it glorifies what they describe as the "white invasion of 1788."

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, receiving the Young Endeavour from British High Commissioner Sir John Leahy, said it was "a fitting tribute to a deep, unbroken relationship of 200 years."

Leahy, who read a congratulatory message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, said: "Henceforth she (the Young Endeavour) is in Australian hands, but will remain in British hearts."

The ship's name harks back to the original endeavour of Captain James Cook who discovered and charted the East Coast of Australia in 1770.

Eighteen years later, a fleet of 11 sailing vessels brought the first batch of British convicts to Sydney. They became the founding members of modern Australia. Aboriginal protest leaders said their main target would be a planned re-enactment on Tuesday of the arrival of the fleet 200 years ago.

A memorial for the war dead in the heart of the city was found, desecrated today. The cenotaph was painted with the slogans "invasion 1788" and "mourning the death of Aborigines in Australia."

Aboriginal leaders said their people would hold peaceful demonstrations but would be prepared to respond to any violence.

Najib confers with Cordovez

Kabul will show flexibility in talks

ISLAMABAD, Jan 25. (AP): Afghan President Najib told UN mediator Diego Cordovez last night that his country will participate in the next round of Geneva talks in hopes that it will be the last round of discussions to settle the Afghan problem.

The state-run Radio Kahul, monitored in Islamabad, quoted Najib as saying that the Afghan delegation to the UN-sponsored talks will take part "as always with necessary flexibility of good faith and political goodwill and in the hope that this round of talks will be the last and lead to fundamental achievements."

The UN Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs has been conducting shuttle diplomacy and mediating between representatives of the Afghan and Pakistani governments in indirect negotiations in Geneva since 1982.

The next round of talks is slated for February.

Radio Kabul said Najib also explained "once again, the Republic of Afghanistan's unchangeable position regarding the normalisation of the situation around Afghanistan and ensuring peace in the region."

The Soviet Union intervened

in Afghanistan in December 1979 to aid the pro-Soviet government fighting Afghan rebels. An estimated 115,000 Soviet soldiers are stationed in Afghanistan.

Soviet officials have said they would like to withdraw their troops this year.

Reconciliation
The report said Najib also talked about national reconciliation and expressed the "sincere intentions of the revolutionary leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan to secure peace throughout" the country.

Cordovez arrived in the Afghan capital of Kabul on Saturday from Pakistan, where he held talks with Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

Immediately after his arrival in Kabul, Cordovez met with Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil, who was also present during Sunday's talks with Najib.

Cordovez held a third meeting with Wakil at the Foreign Ministry, the radio said.

Pakistan, which shelters about 3.5 million Afghan refugees and the anti-Afghan government Mujahideen, has served as a representative for the Afghan

opposition groups at the Geneva talks.

Pakistan and Afghanistan sometime next month are to hold the 11th round of discussions on a plan to end the war in Afghanistan and allow a withdrawal of Soviet forces backing Kabul against rebels aided by the United States, China and some Middle Eastern states.

Meanwhile, Afghan government forces have withdrawn from most of the Gardez-Khost highway, scene of a well-publicised battle to break a rebel siege at the end of 1987, according to Radio Kabul.

The official radio said on Sunday that the move was made to allow members of the Jadran tribe who had fled the area during the fighting to return to their homes.

The Soviet-backed government hoped to keep the 125-km road open through negotiation with the local people it said, quoting a government statement.

But it warned the anti-communist Mujahideen who had closed the road for more than eight years that the government would deal decisively with them if they blocked the highway again.

Relief work begins in Palestinian camps

BEIRUT, Jan 25. (Reuters): Workers with bulldozers have started clearing two battered refugee camps in Beirut after a three-year siege and Amal militia have stopped blockading a third Lebanese camp.

Teams from the Hariri Foundation—a charity run by Rafiq Hariri, a businessman friend of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia—began clearing rubble from the Bourj Al-Barajneh and Shatila camps in West Beirut Sunday.

Both camps were badly damaged during the sieges by Amal, Lebanon's largest Muslim militia. It withdrew from positions around the two camps on Wednesday after Amal chief Nabih Berri announced an end to the blockades.

In the port town of Tyre 80 km (50 miles) south of Beirut, Amal militiamen in olive-green fatigues ended a 14-month-old siege of Rashidiyah camp, home for some 17,000 Palestinians.

Witnesses said scores of Palestinian women, children and men

ventured out of the camp for the first time since October 1986.

Palestinians and Amal sources said Lebanese police were expected to take up positions in and around Rashidiyah to ensure the safety and movement of the inhabitants.

Berri announced on Jan 16 that his fighters would lift the sieges as a tribute to Palestinian demonstrators in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The Amal-Palestinian war has ended forever," Berri said on Saturday.

Commentators said violent unrest in the West Bank and Gaza in the last six weeks had unified Amal and the Palestinians, allowing their national Arab feelings to overcome political differences.

They said both sides had realised for the first time that they were both the losers in a war which had only succeeded in draining their military capabilities.

Duchess of York is pregnant

LONDON, Jan 25. (Reuters): Britain's Duchess of York, wife of Queen Elizabeth's second son Andrew, is expecting a baby in August, Buckingham Palace said today.

The announcement ended weeks of speculation in the British press that the red-haired former Sarah Ferguson, known by her popular nickname "Fergie" was pregnant.

"The Duke and Duchess of York are very pleased to announce that the Duchess of York is expecting a baby in August," said a spokeswoman for Buckingham Palace.

She said the Duchess hoped to continue public engagements until the beginning of June.

Prince Andrew and Sarah were married in July 1986.

The Duchess, 28, has become one of the most popular members of the royal family. She has maintained an action-packed life-style that included learning how to fly aeroplanes and helicopters.



● A truckload of prisoners and their police minders (centre) parade through the streets of Harbin, China, with placards around the necks of culprits with their names along with their crimes which include pick-pocketing, robbery and black-marketeering. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aquino appeals to reject communists

Filipinos vote in delayed polls

MANILA, Jan 25. (AP): President Corazon Aquino appealed to voters to reject candidates controlled by communist rebels as Filipinos in five violence-plagued provinces voted in delayed local elections today.

Polls were held in the Luzon provinces of Ilocos Sur, Abra, Quezon and Ifugao, and in Maguindanao province of Mindanao Island. Significant results were not expected before Tuesday.

No serious incidents were reported on election day in the affected provinces. But the military said a candidate in Abra province, retired Brig. Gen. Eustaquio Purugganan, and council candidate Victoria Bringas escaped injury when suspected communist rebels fired on their car last night near the municipal

hall in the town of Penarubia.

About 2,000 troops were deployed in the five provinces, where up to 1.25 million people were expected to cast ballots.

Troops in full battle gear patrolled the streets of Vigan City, 335 kilometres north of Manila, as well as in other towns in Ilocos Sur province. The military said helicopter gunships were placed on standby in case of attacks by communist rebels.

In Cotabato city, 880 kilometres southeast of Manila, Brig. Gen. Jesus Hermosa warned in a radio statement that the military would not hesitate to use force to quell election violence in Maguindanao.

The military has said Quezon, Abra and Ifugao are areas where the communist New People's Army hopes to influence the balloting.

Regional elections were held in 62 of the country's 73 provinces on Jan 18. Voting was postponed in 11 provinces because of fears of violence.

Voting in the other six provinces was rescheduled for various dates. At least 90 people, including more than 40 candidates, were killed in election-related violence nationwide after campaigning began on Dec 1.

Meanwhile, the government-run Philippines news service said today that the Commission on Elections proclaimed renegade Col Rodolfo Aguinaldo as the winner in the governor's race for northern Luzon's Cagayan province.

Aguinaldo's opponents had sought unsuccessfully to have the election nullified, claiming the former colonel used threats and coercion to win votes.

Sweden drops probe into Bofors bribes

STOCKHOLM, Jan 25. (Reuters): Swedish police said today that because of lack of evidence they were dropping inquiries into an allegation that the weapons manufacturer Bofors paid bribes to secure a \$1.4-billion deal with India.

Chief police prosecutor Lars Ringberg told Swedish Radio he had decided to end the probe into the 1986 order for field artillery. "As things stand, there is insufficient evidence for us to proceed with a prosecution," he said.

The investigation had established Bofors had paid \$53 million into the Swiss bank accounts of three foreign companies, he added.

But Swiss banking secrecy had made it impossible to discover the identities of the ultimate beneficiaries. Swiss banking authorities rejected requests from Swedish police to reveal details of the account holders.

The affair erupted last April when Swedish state radio charged that Bofors, a subsidiary of Nobel Industries, paid tens of millions of dollars in commissions to secure Sweden's biggest-ever export order.

N. Korea severs contacts with US

TOKYO, Jan 25. (AP): North Korea said today it was severing contacts with US diplomats and would no longer negotiate the return of Americans missing from the Korean war.

The action came in retaliation for US sanctions over the bombing of a South Korean jetliner.

"As a retaliatory step against the US sanctions, we will refrain from meeting American diplomats in international arena and not permit the entry of those of American nationality into our country and will not have any negotiation with the United States over the issue of remains of the dead Americans from Feb 1, 1988," a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

Retaliation
North Korea said it had "suffered due to the US" and "has the right to take even severer steps than sanctions" against the United States. The statement did not elaborate.

Last week, the US State Department put North Korea on its list of countries that support terrorism.

The action was in retaliation for the bombing of a South Korean jetliner last November in which 115 people died. A 25-year-old passenger on an earlier part of the flight said Jan 15 that she was a North Korean agent and had planted a bomb.

As part of its sanctions, the United States had already withdrawn authorisation for US diplomats to hold "substantive discussions" with North Korean diplomats in neutral settings.

In its statement, North Korea called the US actions a "bid to insult and besmirch" its sovereignty and accused the United States of plotting to destroy the jetliner and blame North Korea.

The news agency, monitored in Tokyo, also said North Korea called on other countries to bring the United States to an international tribunal as a "ring-leader of international terrorism."

It criticised the United States for military actions in Grenada, Libya and Iran and said, "How dare the United States brand others as terrorist states?"

Union leader may tone down militancy

NUM re-elects Scargill

LONDON, Jan 25. (Agencies): Arthur Scargill, the militant head of the National Union of Mineworkers who called a long and damaging coal miners' strike in 1984, was re-elected union president last night.

But he won by a much smaller majority and the British media speculated this may lead him to tone down his militancy.

Scargill won 40,383 or 54 per cent of the vote, far from the 70 per cent he received when first elected in 1981. His moderate opponent, coal miner John Walsh, received 34,715 votes or 46 per cent.

Scargill was a leading figure in the successful union campaign that brought down the Conservative government of Prime Minister Edward Heath in 1974 and spearheaded the attempt to repeat the feat with Conservative

Prime Minister Thatcher in 1984. Doe writer called him, "one of the most important, most admired, most hated, most feared men in the country."

In 1982 and 1983 he called for strike action but union members halted against industrial action. He ordered the 1984 strike without holding a ballot, which led one important area, Nottingham, to refuse to join.

Unlike Heath, Thatcher refused to hudge and the strike was long and costly for the coal miners, who eventually returned to work.

Scargill has vowed to continue the hard-line stance which earned him a reputation as one of the country's most radical union leaders this century and led moderates to split off and form the 23,000-strong union of democratic mineworkers.

His victory in the latest ballot was far smaller than the 70 per cent margin which first elected him to the NUM presidency in 1982.

But it was seen as boosting Scargill's authority within the union, which had ebbed since the failure of the strike and the subsequent closure of some 100 mines.

Scargill's re-election could also usher in a new era of confrontation between the NUM and the coal industry, which is planning further pit closures and pushing for a six-day work week.

Walsh, who polled well in moderate South Wales and Central England, also opposed industry restructuring but advocated negotiations with industry heads rather than the confrontational approach favoured by Scargill.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tunisian premier

DAMASCUS, Syria, Jan 25. (AP): President Hafez Assad met with Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Al Baccouche today and discussed the Middle East issue, including restoring links with Egypt, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported.

It said Al Baccouche delivered a message from Tunisian President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali to Assad, but gave no details.

Irish envoy

BEIRUT, Jan 25. (UPI): Irish ambassador to Lebanon Patrick McCabe, in talks today with Muslim leaders in West Beirut, appealed for information that might bring about the release of Irish hostage Brian Keenan.

"We discussed the issue of Irish kidnap victim Brian Keenan and Al Hoss promised to help in this matter and in securing his release," McCabe told reporters after a meeting with acting Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss.

McCabe, who is based in Baghdad, arrived in Lebanon yesterday and appealed for information "which could lead to establishing contacts with the captors of Brian Keenan."

King Hussein

AMMAN, Jan 25. (Reuters): Jordan's King Hussein and Queen Noor are to visit Austria during a European tour which will include Italy, France and West Germany.

A court spokesman said today Hussein and Noor would visit Vienna sometime before mid-February at the invitation of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim and his wife. Waldheim visited Jordan last July.

Turkish sailors

VIENNA, Austria, Jan 25. (AP): A Bulgarian freighter rescued seven Turkish sailors at the weekend in rough seas near the coast of Sicily, the official Bulgarian news agency BTA said today.

BTA said the Bulgarian freighter Burgas noticed the Turkish Celiktrans I was in need of help at 5:30 am yesterday.

Six sailors were pulled on board the Bulgarian container ship from a lifeboat which was then smashed to pieces by the weather, BTA said.

Election fraud

TUNIS, Jan 25. (Reuters): The Tunisian Communist Party, alleging election fraud, demanded today the annulment of the first by-elections held since a new government promised greater democracy nearly three months ago.

The communists, the only opposition group to take part in yesterday's five by-elections, alleged that ballot boxes were illegally stuffed with ruling party tickets.

Earthquake

SAN DIEGO, Jan 25. (AP): A strong earthquake struck Baja California, Mexico, early today, shaking some Californians awake but triggering no damage reports north of the border.

Information from the scene wasn't immediately available.

A preliminary reading put the quake at 6.0 or greater on the Richter scale, said Bill Davis of the California Office of Emergency Services.

Haiti election

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Jan 25. (Reuters): The candidate said to be favoured by Haiti's military government, Leslie F. Manigat, won last week's presidential elections, according to final official figures released yesterday.

Manigat, 57, a political science professor, had appeared confident of victory when he was interviewed on state television on Saturday night. He said that, if elected, he would devote all his energies "to the fight against misery."

Family planning

ANKARA, Jan 25. (Reuters): Turkish family planning officials said today free condoms they distributed in the rural southeast were being used as balloons instead of contraceptives.

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Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Hint at cabinet reshuffle

Kuwait does not indulge in slander: Sheikh Nasser

KUWAIT'S Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al-Ahmed yesterday affirmed that "regardless of positions and posts we hold, we are all sincere soldiers and sons of this country who have to implement the policy and instructions of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and to work in service of the citizen."

The minister was speaking to a number of citizens and journalists on the open day in the ministry and was answering a question about reports of cabinet reshuffle that would include a number of present ministers.

On the recent resolution of the information undersecretaries of the Gulf Cooperation Council to select Kuwait as a centre of news exchange the minister explained that this was in implementation of a work paper presented by Kuwait two years ago.

He added that at that time, Gulf States had not completed

the ground satellite stations for receiving programmes via ArabSat. But now most of those states have completed their stations except for two countries.

Sheikh Nasser also said that the information undersecretaries have decided that the centre continues for the exchange of programmes and news, not only via ArabSat but also via international satellites between the region and the world in general, benefiting from Kuwait's experience in that field.

Policy

The minister said Kuwait's policy is based on avoiding to indulge in vituperations with anyone but answering campaigns of slander and attempts at distorting facts.

He added that Kuwaiti newspapers carry out their role in that field whether through confronting those campaigns or keeping away from vituperations or personal slander.

On appointment of an official spokesman for the ministry to answer queries of Arab and foreign journalists, the minister said the government has an official spokesman who is the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and that there is a national news agency, namely Kuwait News Agency, which is an official and accredited source of local news.

The minister announced that the government ministries and establishments will participate in the celebrations of the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day.

Editor in chief of Al-Arabi magazine Dr Mohammed Al Rumaihi said the magazine will issue a book entitled "Kuwait and Development" on that occasion that will highlight activities of the ministries and government administrations over the past period.

Efforts to execute Five Year Plan

DR Abdul Hadi Al Awadhi, the Undersecretary for Kuwait's Ministry of Planning, said the ministry is working with 48 government authorities on the execution of the Five Year Plan which will end in 1990.

During his meeting with a delegation from the University of Jordan, the undersecretary said that the Five Year Plan was the result of the overall rapid growth in Kuwait's population and the disparate increase in the Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti populations, with non-Kuwaiti outnumbering Kuwaitis.

The plan was also the result of continuous reduction of manpower and the excess number of public servants, he said, adding that this necessitated long-term planning for the social and economic development of the country.

Dr Al Awadhi explained that the Five Year Plan concentrates on developing and training national manpower and social administration development to balance the Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti populations in the country.

Training course for salesmen

MISHAR Al Omairi, a board member of Kuwait's Cooperative Societies Union, opened a training course for 35 salesmen at the union's headquarters on Saturday.

Al Omairi, speaking at the opening, said the cooperative societies played an important role in meeting consumer needs and necessitated the continuous development of the societies' sales staff.

He added that a total of 70 per cent of Kuwait's population purchase supplies from cooperative societies and the union did its best to ensure that the skills of those working at the cooperatives were improved to meet the increasing demand.

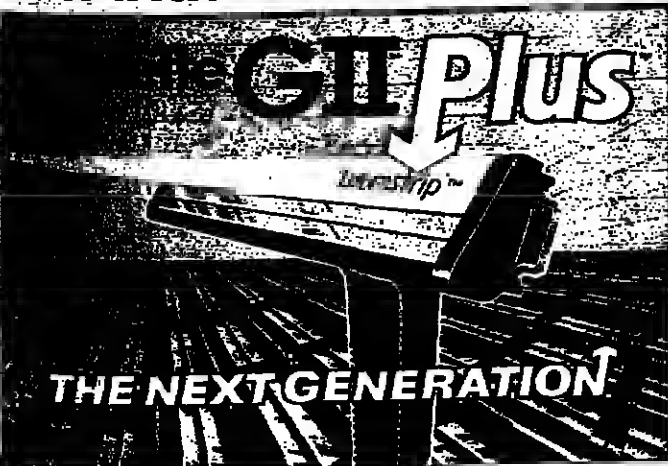
IAC to hold variety show

THREE schools and several Indian groups will take part in a variety show organised by the Indian Arts Circle to celebrate the Republic Day of India.

Students of the Indian, Carmel and the New Indian schools will take part in the show, due to be held at 7.30 pm on Jan 28, Thursday, at the new IAC premises in Finattee. Others participating in the show are the Sudarshan Kala Mandir, Bharati Kalai Mandram, Punjabi Cultural Society and Upasana.

The show will be held under the patronage of Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha. Admission is free. All Indians are welcome.

New blade introduced



GILLETTE has introduced a fixed head twin blade with a lubricating strip, the "Gil Plus" (picture).

The lubricating strip, polythene guide, is a plastic variant developed by Gillette after ten years of intensive testing and research. It consists of a thin water soluble film which, on contact with a moistened face, releases the lubricating substance, thus reducing the friction between the blade and the face. The strip is designed to last as long as the blade.

There is more to Britain than London

By Keith Wells

PETER Glover, head of the Middle East department at the British Tourist Authority, visited Kuwait at the beginning of the week and told local travel agents that there is more to Britain than London. He said, "Kuwaiti visitors are missing out if they continue to think of Britain merely in terms of shopping in and around Oxford Street."

Glover went on to point out that "more and more Middle East visitors are discovering that hotels and shopping facilities are even more attractive than in the big city."

Nearly all of the big department stores have branches all over the country and offer the same goods at lower prices in less crowded shopping areas. Some Kuwaiti visitors have already discovered Brighton, on the south coast, which has a superb shopping centre and first class hotels which charge much less than those in London.

Bargains Birmingham, England's second largest city, is another good place for bargains. It has excellent hotels, built for the National Exhibition Centre, but in the summer when there are fewer exhibitions in progress, these hotels are only too glad to offer special rates.

Birmingham is famous for its shopping, its night life and also its position in the very heart of England, which makes it a perfect base for exploring some of the loveliest parts of the English countryside.

Stratford-on-Avon, with its Shakespearean connections is nearby, as is Warwick, which has a magnificent castle housing a Madame Tussaud's exhibition, and Worcester where visitors to the Royal Worcester Porcelain factory can buy magnificent chinaware at factory prices. Just north of Birmingham is Alton Towers, Britain's answer to Disneyland.

Two hundred years ago, Dr Johnson wrote, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life." Peter Glover paraphrased that quotation by saying, "When a man is tired of London there is a whole host of other attractions in Britain and it is a shame that Kuwaiti visitors are missing them."

Committee to draw up new housing service rules

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Rodhan said the Higher Housing Council has appointed a committee to draw up new housing service rules. The new rules will be printed in a pamphlet form and distributed to citizens, he said, informing them of their rights and responsibilities. He affirmed that the goal of the housing ministry was to provide houses for all citizens in accordance with certain restrictions and regulations.

Minister Al Rodhan explained that the ministry had studied the housing provided in Jabra and Umm Al Himay which are known as Shaabiyat. The study included consideration of the removal of these houses and construction of new government houses in these areas within the coming Five Year Plan.

Shaabiyat housing was originally built to be used by Kuwaiti and military staff of the Defence and Interior Ministries, he added.

Al Rodhan confirmed that Kuwaiti widows and divorced women with children are provided government housing the same as other Kuwaitis, adding that citizens should do their best to cooperate with the National Housing Authority so they could perform their job better.

Before leaving Riyadh, Balladur and Saudi Finance Minister Mohammed Abul-Khalil signed an accord for annual high-level meetings between their finance ministries and central bank authorities.

French diplomats said Balladur, as French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's envoy, was mainly discussing developments

in the Iran-Iraq war. The 7-year-old conflict has increasingly menaced navigation in the region that provides 60 per cent of Western Europe's oil needs.

Balladur will also visit Kuwait, the country closest to the war zone.

To the UAE, Balladur will see Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Federation's Armed Forces. His father, the president, is visiting Pakistan.

Balladur was also scheduled to meet UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid when he goes to Dubai, second largest of the seven emirates in the federation.

Balladur was conferring with economic, finance and industry ministers on ways to bolster trade.



The Editor-in-Chief of the Seyassah newspaper, Ahmed Al Jarallah, yesterday received at his office the Egyptian Ambassador to Kuwait, Saeed Mahmoud Rifaat (left), who was paying a courtesy visit.

Awadi sees no breakthrough soon in finding a cure for AIDS

By Mahmood Morsi

HEALTH Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi has said that he did not expect any "major breakthrough" in the attempts to find an effective cure for AIDS "in the short term."

He told the Seyassah newspaper before his departure for London on Sunday afternoon to attend the international health ministers conference on AIDS preventive measures that doctors all over the world were continually uncovering new information about AIDS and saw more patients with this disease but the

overall situation was worsening. He hoped that "promising headway" would be achieved by medical preventive measures.

He warned against promiscuity and the use of dirty hypodermic needles.

Opportunity

He said the conference which began yesterday, was expected to draw up legislation regarding AIDS treatment and preventive measures.

Dr Al Awadi said Kuwait's working paper stressed that strict commitment to the teachings and values of Islam was required to steer clear of this disease.

UAE to launch campaign to combat AIDS

ABU DHABI, Jan 25, (AP) The United Arab Emirates will embark on a campaign to prevent and control the spread of AIDS after the discovery of 360 cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in the country, Health Ministry officials said today.

Of the total AIDS cases, 22 have died, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The disclosure was made as UAE Health Minister Hamad Al Madfa' left for London to attend a world AIDS summit. The three-day meeting, set for Tuesday, is expected to gather health officials from 145 countries.

The officials said most of the cases were expatriates, mainly Southeast Asians.

Only 30 per cent were UAE nationals, who apparently contracted the deadly disease through blood transfusions in the past five to nine years, they added. The UAE has banned the import of blood from the United States and Europe in recent years.

The UAE nationals have been admitted to special clinics and the expatriates were sent home. AIDS cases among the Asians were detected when new arrivals underwent blood tests, required for obtaining residence permits.

The officials said that in March, the ministry would launch a campaign to combat the epidemic. The first step, they said, would be to test pregnant women, newborn infants and patients admitted to hospitals.

Large number of Kuwaitis studying in UK

Britain may ask for 10pc more in fees

LONDON, Jan 25, (Kuna) Overseas university students may be asked to pay 10 per cent more in course fees during the next academic year, it was reported today.

The Department of Education and Science here, which makes recommendations on course fees to Britain's universities, said that it was currently considering to raise the fees for the year beginning September 1988.

It will make its final recommendation at the end of next month, but each university will still be able to determine its own charges.

About 38,000 overseas students study at UK universities. With the exception of the

EEC and Commonwealth countries, they normally pay three times the fee of their British counterparts.

Around 5,693 first year overseas students during the 1985/86 year came from the Middle East, of which 441 were Kuwaitis, according to the British Council.

Universities, which enjoy a large degree of autonomy, rely heavily on the extra income from the overseas students to make their financial plans work.

At present the recommended fees were £3,690 a year for an arts course, £4,840 for science and £8,960 for clerical courses, including medicine. But these can vary considerably between institutions.

involved in legal procedures.

Al Wazzan said the ministry will discontinue telephone service for failure to pay overdue telephone bills, adding that if this failed other services would be discontinued and the final resort would be legal prosecution.

Legal action often includes a ban on travel, he said, which would be lifted only after the subscriber had paid all overdue bills. He explained further that subscribers were given a 45-day deadline to pay bills after they had been sent out repeatedly and the ministry would contact the subscriber requesting him to come in to settle overdue bills before actually disconnecting service.

He said that a special Tariff Development Committee conducted studies to evaluate fees for various ministry subscriber services, adding that the committee was currently studying the feasibility of charging for local calls.

With the computerisation of telephone billing, Al Wazzan said, there are very few errors, adding that only occasional crossed lines would result in incorrect billing.

One killed in road accident A MAN died when his car overturned after a head-on collision with another car yesterday.

There were 24 traffic accidents in Kuwait, with four occurring in the capital, four in Hawalli, nine in Ahmadi and seven in Jahra.

Registration for courses

GHLOUM Al Attar, the Director of the Community Services and Continuing Education Office at Kuwait's Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, announced that the closing date for registration for courses offered by the authority is Monday, Feb 1.

He added that 600 students had already registered during the first two days of registration for the courses which will begin on Feb 20. Al Attar said that 1,900 students would be accepted for the courses, adding that registration could be completed at the Business Institute in Hawalli.

Registration for courses

The conference was a good opportunity to exchange views on the subject and possibly reach a unified international strategy to bring it under control.

He said that Kuwait's draft anti-AIDS bill would be subject to alteration, based on the results and recommendations adopted at the conference.

Speaking to Kuna shortly before departure, Dr Awadi said the 2-day London conference will tackle the impact of AIDS and try to reach a comprehensive plan to prevent its spread, noting that the number of victims of the killer disease is increasing all over the world.

Iran, Iraq attend Gulf pollution seminar

ABU DHABI, Jan 25, (Reuters) Delegates from warring Iran and Iraq attended a seminar in UAE today on preventing pollution in the Gulf, where their attacks on merchant ships have threatened major oil spills.

Several raids on ships last year resulted in oil leaks, most recently when an Iranian gunboat struck the Cypriot supertanker Pivotal on December 12 to a state of emergency being declared along the coast of the emirate of Sharjah.

Kuwaiti delegate Dr Abdul Rahman Awadi urged Gulf states to cooperate against pollution threats. He did not mention the war but said there were more than 185 "marine" accidents involving tankers, ships or oil installations in the region last year.

Organisers said the three-day seminar would focus on ways to combat pollution emergencies as well as on prevention, control and research.

It was organised by the UAE higher environmental committee and the Regional Organisation for the Protection of the Marine Environment, which comprises the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

Delegates will visit a pollution combat centre at Al-Ruwais, 100 miles northeast of Abu Dhabi.

Gulf News

Agency meeting

MANAMA, Jan 25, (Kuna) Directors general of Arab Gulf national news agencies today started their fifth meeting here to discuss a work plan for the Gulf News Agency for the next year.

In accordance with resolutions of the last meeting of information ministers of the Arab Gulf states and the Gulf News Agency's board of directors, the directors general of news agencies of Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar met to set out suggestions in a bid to develop performance of GNA.

THE board chairman of the Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) Ahmed Al Meshari was quoted yesterday as suggesting that the six countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council agree between them to consider their combined airspace as a zone of domestic flights.

The groundwork is set for such a political decision which would fall in line with the accord under which the GCC was established seven years ago, Meshari said in an interview published in a Kuwaiti newspaper.

He said the three GCC national air carriers can benefit from such a move which would ensure them of an edge in dealing with other airlines and give them free hand in cutting fares and fuel and service prices.

Leasing Asked why KAC opted for leasing its aircraft to other carriers in low season periods, the corporation's chief executive said KAC was grossing profit from lending its "surplus capacity."

He justified the move saying that it was intended to exploit the surplus capacity in the 8th month

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

GULF PRESS

Supporting uprising with deeds

UNITED Arab Emirates newspapers continued to editorialise on the reactions and repercussions in the Arab world and the world at large towards the uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

Al Itihad newspaper of Abu Dhabi said "escalation and spread of the uprising to even small occupied villages revive the hope in the hearts of all Arabs and attract broad backing from all world countries."

The newspaper hailed the Arab foreign ministers decision to extend immediate financial aid to the uprising adding "It is a proof that the Arab world is backing the uprising not only with words but with deeds which is considered to be the right path to realise national aspirations as prescribed by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan."

Al Khaleej newspaper of Sharjah hailing the foreign ministers decision said "it is an official Arab contribution in support of the uprising" adding "its implementation would strengthen the Palestinian steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories."

The newspaper warned against attempts to curtail the uprising or using it to back "proposed settlement projects."

Al Bayan newspaper of Dubai praised Canadian Prime Minister retraction of his statement on Dec 21 on the uprising and his admission that he wrongly evaluated the events in the occupied lands.

The newspaper said "he did good to admit the right and awake his conscience, but what is more important is a continuation of his balanced stands towards world issues such as the uprising and not to retract the moment Israel and world Zionist lobby attack him."

The Dubai based English language daily Khaleej Times applauding the firm support shown by Arab League foreign ministers for the PLO at their meeting in Tunis said it was among "the main features of a wider strategy the Arab leaders have been trying to formulate ever since the uprising began."

The paper said "the time is surely right to accelerate the pace of peace based on a satisfactory settlement of the Palestinian issues."

"The popular revolt against the Israeli occupation and the upsurge of Palestinian determination to confront Zionism's ruthless war machine have already influenced international public opinion", it pointed out.

It is thus appropriate, the paper said "that external and internal pressure on the Shamir clique and its backers everywhere should be intensified."

The Khaleej Times stressed "there should be no let-up in the current campaign unless Israel agrees to withdraw from the occupied territories and to the (International Middle East peace) conference as a vehicle for a just and comprehensive peace."

Siamese twins die



Doctors tried their best but failed to save the twins.

By Jadranka Porter

TWELVE days after they had been born, Kuwait's Siamese twins died on Sunday night of heart and lung failure. Doctors at Ibn Sina hospital asked the Egyptian couple, the parents of the female twins, for permission to perform autopsy but the babies' mother was too depressed to make an immediate decision.

Twenty five doctors from Ibn Sina and Chest Diseases hospitals had striven to save the lives of the twins who suffered from severe congenital abnormalities. A British expert had been consul-

ted but the twins died before he could offer his opinion on the case. Kuwait's specialists held the prospects for surgery were poor.

The twins had been in critical condition for days and were kept alive through intravenous feeding and mechanical ventilation. They took a turn for the worse on Sunday evening when their hearts and lungs showed signs of collapsing and their blood pressure began dropping. The head of surgery at Ibn Sina hospital Dr M. Issa was called in and he together with Dr Atef Fouda, the consultant anaesthetist stayed with the babies until they died at 11.30 pm.

Declare GCC states as zone of domestic flights: Al Meshari

of the year when demand is normally very low.

Faced with eight months of very low demand every year KAC had to choose either to sell the bulk of its fleet and to charter planes in the summer time, or to lease its own aircraft.

Suspension

KAC opted to be the leader out the borrower, Meshari said, especially that the corporation has no liquidity problems and that its aircraft were bought at good book value prices.

However, Meshari believed this use of surplus capacity could suddenly come to an end if the political reasons which forced the suspension of certain routes were eliminated.

Meshari blamed sluggish demand for the airline services on the Gulf war, a drop in oil prices, security matters related to the war developments and economic stagnation in the region.

Another option being contemplated was that KAC and the Saudi airlines jointly operate new routes to South America and Japan, he said.

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Ballerina by Al Munayes.



Director Peter Godfrey discusses choreography with Donna Smith (left) and Carole Godfrey.

Songs for winter

SONGS to suit all tastes will be presented by local singers at the Winter Serenade due next week.

Such singers as Ross Langhorne, Lynley Lewis, Jenny Gatland, Rosie Taylor, Reem Kelani and Carol Jelly will take part in the show. Apart from Reem, all singers have appeared in musicals produced by Kuwaiti Players. Reem has appeared in several shows including ACT's Country and Western and a recent concert by the Folk Group.

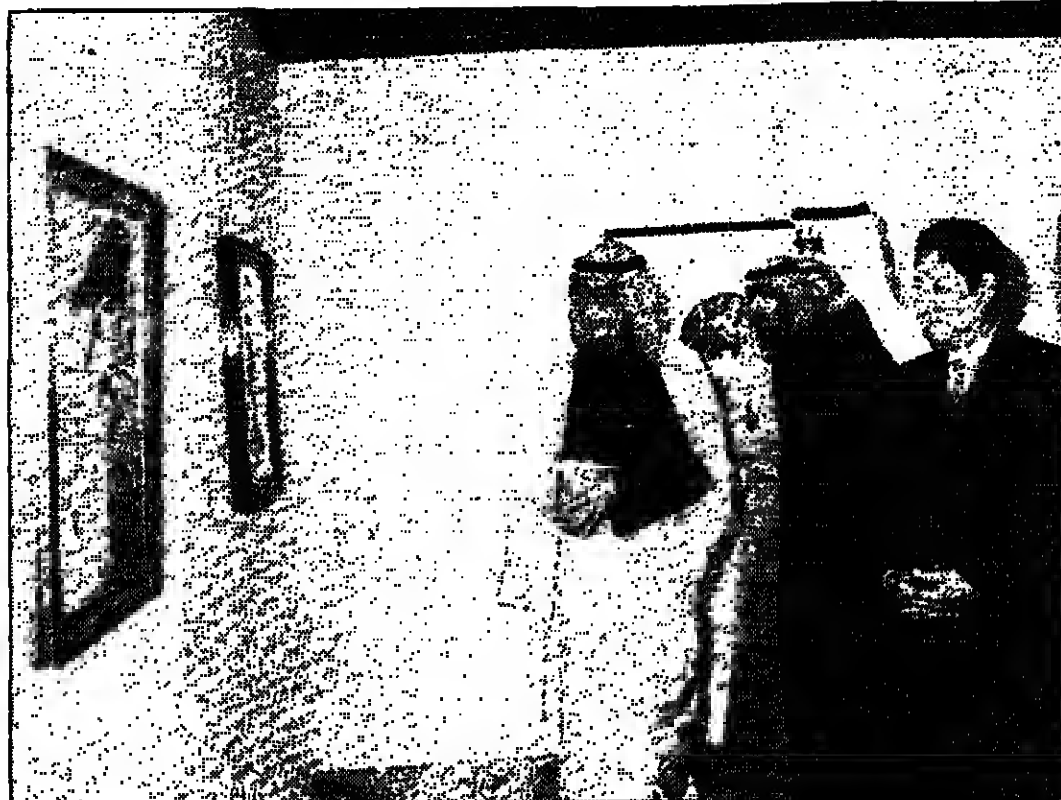
They will present such old favourites as "Mist and Smoke Gets in Your Eyes; showstoppers like Maria and If My Friends Could See Me

Now, modern ballads including "Sometimes When We Touch and Memory. Swinging numbers like "Anything Goes and "Chattanooga Choo Choo will bring back nostalgic memories.

A number of dances will be performed by Mandy Martin, Donna Smith, Carole Godfrey and others.

The show is being jointly directed by Peter Godfrey, Glenis Muckle and Ross Langhorne. Musical Director John Chance and stage manager Rick Muckle complete the team.

Winter Serenade will be performed from Feb 1 to 4 in the Meridian's Al Jahra Ballroom.



Information Ministry's Undersecretary, Abdul Aziz Ja'afar, seen with Ahmed Al Munayes (second right) and guests after opening the exhibition.

A colourful change

CHANGING with the dictates of his mood, Kuwaiti artist Ahmed Al Munayes gives a new touch to his art and experiments with new methods and techniques.

A collection of paintings by Al Munayes are now on show at the Kuwait National Museum, showing both his old and new styles.

Al Munayes, who was until recently a traditionalist relying heavily on realism, has turned to modern art to give himself more freedom of expression.

"People don't appreciate modern art," he moans. But for him, the new art form is a way of breaking away from old habits and inhibitions and "doing something new."

In his earlier works, Al Munayes had captured life in Kuwait — as he saw it. He also concentrated on sketching glimpses of the past — bedouins, tents and the heritage of Kuwait.

One of his specialties were the models of old Kuwaiti doors — slatted with brass knobs, a style that has now vanished. The mini-door models made by Al Munayes were last



A veiled woman in the desert (Photos by Javed Basra)

year shown at several exhibitions around Kuwait.

With the help of modern art, Al Munayes sees himself as exploring his feelings, which range from joy to sadness with all other emotions thrown in between.

"There is so much you can say through modern art. Symbols, lines and colours can be used effectively to say what I

want to say," he explains. Al Munayes has used new colours for his present collection. There is a mixture of bright and mellow shades — yellow, mauve, blue, beige, burgundy, pinks and red — with contrasting shades and lines to produce attractive shapes though not always comprehensible.

"There is a message in my art. One has to look more closely and carefully," he says.

An art teacher at a public school, Al Munayes divides his time between his work and his painting. He also makes posters and company logos and has made quite a name for himself in Kuwaiti circles.

"I have done all this without the help of anyone," he says, complaining about the lack of support for creative artists from the government.

"If one wants to be an artist, one has to struggle. The government gives very little support," he says. But this is not an obstacle for the ambitious Al Munayes who does not shy away from experimenting.



The portrait of a woman at work

FA

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Kuwait-Indian Telugu Association

A cultural show will be held at 4 pm on Jan 29 at the Sharq Cooperative Society auditorium. A Telugu comedy "Votunna Prajaland Kori Dandalu" will be staged. Students of Nuthana, a dance school, will present a variety of dances. The highlight of the show will be the Peacock Dance. And for the first time, a male dancer will perform in Kuwait. Admission is free for the show, which is being held as part of the 40th anniversary of India's independence.

Story Time

Story time for children will be held on Jan 28, 10.30 am, at the British Council in Mansouriya. Children of all nationalities are welcome.

Kuwait Natural History Group

The next meeting of the group will be held from 7.30 pm, tonight, Jan 26, at the Gulf English School. An illustrated talk on Kashmir will be given by Ian Donaldson. For further details contact Eric Shaw. Tel: 3718417.

Flag-hoisting ceremony

A flag-hoisting ceremony will be held on Jan 26 at 8.30 am at the embassy premises on the occasion of India's Republic Day. All Indians are welcome.

German-Speaking Cultural Association

The association will hold a cooking class from 9.45 am on Tuesday, Jan 26, at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel. All German-speaking women are welcome.

On Jan 31, a video film on the Hanan Village will be shown at the Kuwait Women's Society in Khaldiya. Women should gather at 9.30 am at the German School. All are welcome.

Children's Books Exhibition

A children's book exhibition is being held at the British Council in Mansouriya. The exhibition features award-winning books by prominent British illustrators and authors exhibited at the Frankfurt International Book Fair. The exhibition, sponsored by the British Council and is being held in cooperation with the Kuwait Bookshop. It will be open from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm, until Jan 28.

Kapilku Membership

Filipinos are invited to join Kapilku. Membership cards

are available at the Philippine Embassy. For details call Jojo 4877793.

Kuwait Caledonians

Kuwait Caledonians will hold Burns Night at 7.30 pm on Jan 28 at Messilah Beach Hotel. Guest speaker will be Bob Crempsey. For details phone 5610673.

Sargam Music Show

Sargam, a local group, will hold a music show at Messilah Beach Hotel at 6.30 pm on Feb 3. A selection of popular Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English songs will be presented. Entertainment also includes fire dance, lava dance and a magic show. For details phone 3260455, 7 am to 3 pm.

Contact

The ladies information group. Contact will be held on Jan 30, Saturday, from 10 am at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers particularly welcome. Tel: 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

Winter Serenade

The Kuwait Players Winter Serenade will be an evening to remember — haute cuisine, music, sparkling and show stoppers, nostalgic ballads, moody blues and celebrated classics performed by Ross, Jenny, Lynley, Reem, Rosie and Carol. Directed by Peter Godfrey, Ross Langhorne and

Glenis Muckle. It will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Meridian Hotel, on Feb 1, 2, and 3, Feb 4 Gala Dinner and show at 7.30 pm. For details ring 2656265; 5334695 or 5730641.

Kuwait Singers

Rehearsals for the May concert are held at 7.30 pm on Saturdays and Mondays. New members welcome. Tel: 5331413.

Kuwait Welsh Society

New Year's Lunch on Friday, Jan 29, 12.30 pm. For further details phone 4874548 or 3940743/4 ext 231 after 4.30 pm.

Goan variety show

ABOUT 100 Goans are putting finishing touches to a variety show, due on Feb 5. Songs, dances, comedy and skits will be presented by the Meades Brothers: Dr Jerry Rodrigues and troupe; Andy Figueiro and troupe; Cathy Fernandes and troupe; Mario Rebello, Remmi-Mario, Orlando and Dominic. Dr Rodrigues' troupe will present a skit called "Freezing the Mother-in-Law." Other highlights are a sketch entitled "Dr Ferns' clinic. Goan Mando, folk dances and carnival.

The show is being held to mark the celebration of the 40th anniversary of India's independence.

ARTS

Dahiyat Abdullah

Al Salem Gallery

An exhibition of sculptures and paintings by Arab artist Rida Saleh is now on at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery in Mansouriya; open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 6 pm, until Jan 30.

National Museum

Modern art paintings by Kuwaiti artist Ahmed Al Munayes are displayed at the National Museum; open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 6 pm. The exhibition continues for two weeks.

SPORTS

Mini Rugby

Training and selection for the forthcoming Bahrain Tour will re-commence on Friday, Jan 29, at 10 am at the Fintas ground. Registration of players and families travelling to Bahrain will be finalised. For further details contact Hugh McArce Orl: 4731087 or Geoff Bennett - Res: 5720831.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Bahath An Mofli: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via Satellite
- 4.15 Nuruddin Zanki: historical serial with Laila Taher, Ali Hassan, Sheza Salem.
- 5.15 Al Manabal: children's serial, starring Ahmad Qawadari, Tayseer Attiya
- 6.15 Agricultural Magazine: local programme
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Afaq Al Fann: Art Horizons.
- 7.35 Al Quds: 20 Years On. A talk show on Jerusalem's history
- 8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar.
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Pages from the History of Kuwait
- 10.50 Photographs: daily Arabic serial, starring Abdullah Ghaiith, Madiha Hamdi, Jamil Rateb, Mohammad Rida.
- 11.30 News Summary
- 11.35 World News via Satellite
- 12.15 Holy Quran/Close down



Robert Redford stars in tonight's Cine Club film, The Way We Were, at 10.10 pm on KTV 2.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Rainbow Bright: Cartoons.
- 6.30 Side Kicks: "The Boy Who Saw Too Much". Arnie takes photographs of a man who commits a murder.
- 7.00 Beyond 2000: a look at the latest advances in science and technology.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 You and the Law: a local programme
- 8.50 Heart of the City: The detective's car is stolen; he also has trouble at home.

- 9.40 Tracy Ullman Show: Comedy
- 10.10 Cine Club: "The Way We Were". Starring Barbra Streisand, Robert Redford, Bradford Dillman. Directed by Sydney Pollack. Appealing and occasionally touching love story, despite over-simplified political content. Duration 118 minutes.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newstreet
- 30 The Mysterious Art of the Conductor
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Short Story
- 45 Pressure Points
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Network UK
- 30 Sports International
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 First Recordings of British Symphonies (ex 5th Organists of Paris)
- 45 Reflections
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 New Ideas
- 40 Book Choice
- 0600 World News
- 09 The World Today
- 30 Rock Salad
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Pressure Points
- 45 Network UK
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Health Matters
- 30 The Mysterious Art of the Conductor
- 0900 World News

- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 A Migrant Miscellany
- 1000 News Summary followed by Discovery
- 30 Sports International
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Waveguide
- 25 A Letter from Scotland
- 30 Citizens
- 1200 Radio Newstreet
- 15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Network UK
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 First Recordings of British Symphonies (ex 5th Organists of Paris)
- 1500 Radio Newstreet
- 15 Jolly Good Show
- 1600 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Omnibus
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 A Letter from Scotland
- 15 Citizens
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsdesk
- 30 Development '88
- 1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary
- 39 Stock Market Report
- 45 Report on Religion
- 2000 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Meridian
- 2100 World News followed by

- Being Human
- 10 Book Choice
- 15 Concert Hall
- 2200 World News
- 09 The World Today
- 25 A Letter from Scotland
- 30 Financial News
- 40 Reflections
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 2300 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 They Sold a Million
- 30 5th Fundamentalist America: 12th Houring the World, 19th Byron; 20th Re-creating the Rhine

English

- Morning
- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.05 Thought in Islam
- 08.20 Songs and Music
- 08.30 News
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Songs and Music
- 09.30 They Sold a Million
- 10.00 Our First Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 10.30 Country Collection
- 11.00 Close down
- 11.30 NEWS on FM Service
- EVENING
- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 In the Latin Mood
- 21.30 NEWS
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.00 Mohammed (PBUH)
- 22.15 In the Groove
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Hit Serial
- 23.30 Jazz in action
- 24.00 Close down

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimm Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Salimiya
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Al Hamra
Binat Haratna (Arabic)
Starring: Ilham Shahin, Bosi, Dalal Abdul Aziz

Drive-In
Al Nimm Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

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Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

Fahaheel Open-Air
Kaash (Hindi)
Starring: Jackie Sbroff, Dimple Kapadia

Al Fahaheel
Do Pakton Torah (Pashto)

Al Jahra
The Brothers Karamazov
Rajlakshi Srikantu (Bengali)

Granada
Ajantha (Indian)

Salaibikbat
Alligator

Al Jleeb
Shahi Darbar (Bengali)

Ahmadi Drive-In
Jara Al Wohoush (Arabic)

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

Al Firdous
Hifazat (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri

FM Services

- 0800-0830 Easy Listening
- 0830-0840 News
- 0840-1000 Easy Listening
- 1000-1300 Songs and Music
- 1300-1340 Easy Listening
- 1340-1400 News
- 1400-1600 Easy Listening
- 1600-1700 Classical Music
- 1700-1700 Easy Listening
- 1700-1800 Italian Hour
- 1800-2130 Pops
- 2130-2145 News
- 2145-2200 Pops
- 2200-2300 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300-2400 Easy Listening
- 2400-0200 Instrumental Listening

PRAYERS

- Fajr 5.18 am
- Zuhr 12.01 noon
- Asr 3.01 pm
- Maghreb 5.21
- Isha 6.41

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PRETTY girls and the 'Largest Dragon in the World' are what a leading department store in Kuala Lumpur is using to usher in the Year of the Dragon. According to traditional Chinese beliefs the dragon brings good luck and prosperity to all. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHILDREN wave the "L" sign for "Laban" (right) associated with President Corazon Aquino to greet her on her 55th birthday in San Jose, Bulacan, north of the capital where she visited yesterday as part of a series of trips to consult with newly-elected local government officials. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Princess of Wales and Prince Charles leaving the Young Endeavour yesterday after the vessel, Britain's 200th birthday present to Australia, was officially handed over to become the nation's official sail training ship. (Reuter wirephoto)



HARDLINE Communist candidate Jouko Kajanoja delivers a speech to an enthralled audience in his campaign to become Finland's president. Opinion polls show Kajanoja has two per cent support for the presidential elections due to take place on January 31 and February 1, 1988. (Reuter wirephoto)



EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak (left) listens to West German President Richard von Weizsäcker (right) during a welcoming ceremony in Bonn yesterday. Mubarak is on the first stop of a 12-day visit to Europe and the United States. (Reuter wirephoto)



WEST GERMAN Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher (right) and West German permanent representative to the European Community, Werner Ungerer prepare their papers before yesterday's foreign ministers meeting in Brussels. (Reuter wirephoto)



IGOR PALENYKH (left), head of a 20-member Soviet delegation of Soviet nuclear testing experts, gives an opening statement upon the group's arrival in Las Vegas, Nevada on Sunday. The Soviets will spend five days at the Nevada test site, home of the US nuclear weapon testing programme. An unidentified interpreter is on the right. (Reuter wirephoto)



AN old Palestinian man demonstrates his make-shift chicken pen in front of his shell-scarred house in the refugee camp of Shatila yesterday. Saudi Arabian engineer teams began erasing the scars of war at two battered camps in Beirut as three besieged camps were reopened in South Lebanon. (Reuter wirephoto)



Actor Charlton Heston congratulates Elizabeth Garvie before presenting the trophy for the "BBC award for the West End Play of the Year" to her, on behalf of Caryl Churchill for the play, Serious Money, Sunday night at the Laurence Olivier awards for the West End Theatre, held at the Victoria Palace Theatre, London. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRESIDENT Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali (right) casts his vote in one of five by-elections on Sunday in Tunis, the first to be held since he took power in November, promising greater democracy. (Reuter wirephoto)



ACTRESS Tracey Ullman and actor Dabney Coleman pose with their Golden Globe awards on Saturday. Ullman won Best Actress in a TV series, musical or comedy for "The Tracey Ullman Show" and Coleman won Best Actor in the same category for "The Stup Maxwell Story." The awards were presented in Beverly Hills, California. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRINCE EDWARD (right) is greeted by Michael Checkland, Director General for the British Broadcasting Corporation on his arrival at the Victoria Palace Theatre Sunday night. Prince Edward was attending the Laurence Olivier Awards for West End Theatre. (Reuter wirephoto)

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A SOUND mind in a sound body is something to be prayed for — Juvenal, Roman lawyer-satirist (about 60-140 A.D.)

Everyone listens to Radio Al Quds

By Paul Taylor

TEL AVIV. (Reuters): A new Palestinian radio station believed to be broadcasting from Syria has gained a mass audience among Arabs in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, fanning an uprising against Israeli rule to the alarm of Israeli officials.

"This is Radio Al Quds (Jerusalem), the Station for the Liberation of the Land and Man," says the call-sign, first heard on Jan 1.

The station features patriotic Palestinian music and poetry and a combination of news, interviews, statements by resistance groups in the occupied territories, and calls in Hebrew to Israeli troops to lay down their arms.

"Everyone is listening to it. More than anything else, this station makes people feel proud, it raises their spirits," said Daoud Kuttah, a Palestinian journalist in East Jerusalem.

A random sampling of taxis, offices and homes in occupied Jerusalem and Gaza suggests the station has acquired a big following.

Among the highlights have been an interview with four Palestinian activists expelled by Israel to South Lebanon earlier this month, conducted in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley.

The radio has also broadcast instructions in a child's voice to Palestinian children on how to propel stones with catapults and slingshots.

"They are riding this wave of violence that's going on in the territories, broadcasting anti-Israeli poison," said Edmund Saheik, head of Israel Radio's Arabic broadcasting.

Easy

Israeli troops have killed 39 Palestinians and wounded more than 500 with gunfire and beatings since violent anti-Israeli unrest erupted in the occupied territories on Dec 9.

The station, easily picked up on medium wave (AM) throughout Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, has not declared any political affiliation or said where it is broadcasting from.

One Palestinian in the Gaza Strip said he believed it was being transmitted secretly from somewhere in Jerusalem, others said they thought it came from Sidon, in Lebanon.

But an Israeli security source said it was broadcasting from a powerful transmitter in southern Syria, clearly with the backing of the Damascus government.

Palestinians say its slogans suggest it is run by a Syrian-backed commando group, probably Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

But they say the station is unusually non-sectarian.

The PFLP-GC carried out a spectacular hang-glider raid on northern Israel last November in which a Palestinian suicide com-

mando flew from Lebanon to an Army base near Kiryat Shmona and killed six Israeli soldiers before being shot dead.

One of the Hebrew slogans with which the radio urges Palestinian demonstrators to taunt Israeli soldiers is: "Kiryat Shmona 6-1."

Israeli officials say they are very worried that the station is so popular among Israel's 650,000 Arab citizens, as well as the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"I think those who listen to it find it quite encouraging. They are broadcasting incitement," a senior Israeli defence official said. "It is hard to measure their influence, but it is certainly a problem."

The clandestine broadcasters receive up-to-date minute reports from helpers inside the occupied territories.

"A new leaflet calling for a strike or a demonstration appears on the streets in Jerusalem and within a couple of hours it is read on the radio," one listener said.

The station interviewed Basam Shak'a, the deposed mayor of Nablus, at his West Bank home by telephone, presumably from Europe. There are no telephone links between Syria and the occupied territories.

However no Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader has yet been heard and all the broadcasters are anonymous.

Named

The radio has begun naming Arab policemen and Arabs working for Israel's civil administration in the occupied territories, giving their addresses and even the number of children, and urging them to quit their jobs immediately.

Israeli security sources said the broadcasts appeared to be a direct incitement to attack those named.

"One day or another, Israel is going to have to deal with it. We have never in the past jammed radio stations but that is something that could be done," Saheik said.

He said most Israeli Arabs and Palestinians still listened to Israel Radio's Arabic broadcasts and watched the Arabic news on Israel Television.

Many also watch Jordanian Television, easy to receive throughout Israel and the territories, and listen to radio stations as far afield as Cairo and Baghdad.

A PLO station broadcasts on short wave from the Iraqi capital, but it is difficult to receive in Israel.

Israeli and Palestinian experts attribute the new station's success partly to the timing of its launch.

"They hit the right moment. People know the East Jerusalem newspapers can't publish much about the uprising because of Israeli censorship, and they hear more propaganda than before on Israel Radio, so they switch to Radio Al Quds," Kuttah said.

Ceausescu marks birthday amid rising unrest

VIENNA. (Reuters): Romanian communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu marks his 70th birthday today against a backdrop of growing popular discontent at home and increasing isolation abroad.

After 22 years of autocratic rule, his reputation as an independent spirit prepared to stand up to Soviet might has been badly tarnished by harsh domestic policies and persistent economic failures.

Last November workers, exasperated by chronic shortages of food, gas and electricity, rioted in the central city of Brasov and there have been reports of unrest in other parts of the country.

Ahead, even Romania's allies have indicated their distaste for the extravagant personality cult surrounding Ceausescu, a relic of the Stalin era that most other communist countries now find embarrassing.

Ceausescu's speeches are interrupted constantly by orchestrated standing ovations and rhythmic chanting from the audience. When Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev visited Romania last year, he would have none of it, and waved them to sit down.

Giant portraits of Ceausescu are everywhere. His collected writings cram the bookshops and the daily two hours of television are dominated by his activities.

Birthday eulogies are already beginning to fill the pages of the strictly-controlled Romanian press.

A greeting from officials in the Interior Ministry, which runs the "Security" secret police who ensure any dissent is quickly stifled, expressed their "deepest feelings of respect and adulation, of patriotic pride and gratitude to celebrate your birthday and over 55 years of heroic revolutionary activity."

While other Soviet bloc countries, taking the lead from Moscow, have opted for some degree of political and economic reform, Ceausescu effectively retains the rigidly-centralised system of the Stalinist 1950s.

In the United States, which 10 years ago granted Romania preferential trading status as a reward for its independent stance, Congress voted last year to suspend it because of Bucharest's human rights record.

On the economic front, Ceausescu's decision three years ago to pay off Romania's \$11 billion foreign debt at breakneck speed by throwing all resources into exports and virtually stopping imports, has led to severe shortages of food and energy.

Last year the President dismissed or reshuffled nearly a third of his government and dozens of senior officials.

GENEVA. (AP): The arms control agreement at the US-Soviet summit in Washington last month has received international acclaim — but it is just one step toward the goal of drastic cuts in world armaments, including conventional and chemical arms.

The treaty to scrap all intermediate-range nuclear forces, which must still be ratified, will eliminate just one class of nuclear weapons that are estimated to represent between three and seven percent of the total super-power nuclear arsenals.

More complicated negotiations are continuing in Geneva on reducing longer-range, or intercontinental nuclear forces, and on regulating weapons in space.

East-West negotiations on reducing conventional forces have been going on in Vienna at a snail's pace for 14 years, and the superpowers are also holding periodic bilateral consultations on eliminating chemical weapons. Both sets of talks also deal with extremely complex issues.

Here are sketches of the super-power and East-West arms control negotiations now underway:

● Intercontinental or strategic nuclear forces (SALT), Geneva.

The superpowers are currently engaged in negotiations aimed at achieving 50 per cent reductions in strategic nuclear forces, which make up the bulk of their nuclear arsenals.

These talks began in June 1982 and broke off in December 1983, when the Soviets refused to set a resumption date because of new US missile deployments in Western Europe. They resumed in



Soviet strategic missile in its silo.

March 1985 as part of the newly agreed Geneva arms talks.

The stated goal of both sides is to agree on a treaty halving their arsenals of long-range nuclear bombers, land-based missiles and submarines. They are trying to agree on a treaty in time for signing at the planned super-power summit in Moscow later this year.

The two sides currently have about 12,000 nuclear warheads each for long-range weapons. They have agreed in principle to reduce to 6,000 warheads each, on 1,600 delivery vehicles.

Both sides have expressed optimism about agreeing on a treaty in time for the summit. But they acknowledge that the two sides remain divided on key issues. These include:

● Verification, or anti-cheating guarantees.

● Mobile land-based missiles, which the United States wants banned but the Soviet Union does not.

● Submarine-launched cruise

Arms reductions

Superpowers still have a long way to go

By Brenda Watson

missiles, which the United States says should not be included in a treaty because they are too difficult to count.

Another problem is Soviet opposition to the US Strategic Defence Initiative. While Reagan and Gorbachev apparently smoothed over their differences on this issue at the Washington summit, the problem has flared up again at the Geneva talks.

The Soviets have made clear that they still link a START treaty to restraints on SDI, also known as "Star Wars." The United States continues to reject such a linkage, and has vowed to continue its research on a space-based defensive system.

The United States maintains that SDI should be included in parallel negotiations on defence and space systems, which are part of the Geneva arms control talks. The United States says agreements should be reached separately in each group.

The goal of the defence and

space negotiations is to agree on a treaty that would commit both sides to abide by the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty for an agreed period of time.

The Soviets have said the ABM treaty precludes some US Star Wars testing, but the US has maintained that it does not.

Even if the two sides do not reach agreement in one or both areas, both sides have indicated a Moscow summit would still be possible.

Conventional weapons talks, Vienna: Conventional weapons negotiations have also taken on added significance following the INF agreement.

Some opponents of the treaty have said it would leave Western Europe more vulnerable to Warsaw Pact superiority in conventional forces.

By Western estimates, the Warsaw Pact holds at least a two-to-one advantage over Nato in conventional arms in Europe, including troops, tanks, attack



A US Trident 2 missile being launched.

aircraft and artillery. The Warsaw Pact countries dispute this.

Nato and Warsaw Pact countries have been engaged in negotiations for 14 years on reducing and balancing their conventional forces in seven European countries — West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The talks, called the mutual and balanced force reduction talks, have not produced concrete results. The main sticking point has been disagreement over the data provided on the size of each side's forces.

Since December 1986, Nato and Warsaw Pact countries have been discussing starting new, broader negotiations on conventional forces in Europe. These talks would aim to balance troops, weapons and equipment at lower levels over a wider geographical area reaching from the Atlantic to the Ural moun-

tains. It is widely thought that if new talks, if agreed, would replace the MBFR talks, although there has been some speculation that the two would continue as parallel negotiations.

The MBFR talks involve seven Nato countries and five Warsaw Pact nations. The planned new talks would involve 16 Nato members and all seven Warsaw Pact members.

Chemical weapons: Multilateral negotiations on treaty banning chemical weapons have been underway in a 40-nation Geneva conference, disarmament for 19 years.

The main obstacle to agreement on a chemical weapons ban has been verification, or an cheating measures.

The United States and Soviet Union are the only two members of the conference so far to address banning chemical weapons. The Soviet Union did so only last year.

The United States in December ended an 18-year moratorium on chemical weapons production and began producing binary chemical weapons — substances which are harmless when stored separately but will combine to become lethal.

The United States has said move was needed to modernise its chemical weapons arsenal and that it would stop producing weapons if a ban was agreed on.

The Soviet Union has said considers the US move as attempt to torpedo the negotiations on chemical weapons ban.

Refugees in Pakistan

Welcome wearing thin for Afghans

By Scheherezade Faramarzi

PESHAWAR, Pakistan. (AP): The welcome is wearing thin in northwest Pakistan for Afghan refugees, whose presence has brought both prosperity and tension.

If Soviet troops withdraw from their homeland and the Afghans return home, a flood of foreign aid money that has reached Peshawar will dry up. But there may be less strain on local farms and forests, and many people hope a recent wave of bombings will recede.

In the eight years the Soviet Army has been in Afghanistan, nearly four million refugees have fled to Pakistan. The bulk have settled in North-West Frontier Province (NWFP). Officials estimate its capital, Peshawar, which had a population of 300,000 in 1979, has swelled to more than one million.

"There are too many of them here, more than the Pakistanis," said Jasmine Fakhr Alam, a 42-year-old Pakistani woman who rents her Peshawar house to non-Afghan foreigners.

The influx has changed the character of Peshawar, once known abroad mainly as a transit point for tourists travelling from Afghanistan through the Khyber Pass to India.

Most of the foreigners here now are members of some 100 Western and Arab relief organisations that look after the Afghan refugees, or of the foreign press corps covering the Afghan story.

Surrounded

Peshawar is surrounded by sprawling refugee camps of mud huts and tents that are cities in themselves. The dusty streets teem with Afghan vendors selling everything from carpets to spicy beef kebabs.

Black-bearded men in turbans and olive-drab fatigues mix with police toting submachine guns, checking cars and pedestrians.

Western consulates, once content with small offices, look more like embassies, working in walled compounds. The need for comfortable housing for diplomats and relief organisations has spurred a building boom.

For Mrs Alam, the house that



Two Afghan children at a refugee camp

rented for Rs 2,000 (\$114) a month eight years ago now fetches Rs 7,000 (\$400).

Nassim Jawad, an Afghan working with the Austrian relief committee, said the aid groups are bringing huge amounts of cash to the region, buying materials on the local market and giving jobs to local citizens.

Jawad said some international organisations spent hundreds of millions of dollars in 1987. But Pakistanis argue that Afghans receive many of those foreign-funded jobs at wages lower than the prevailing ones among their hosts.

"We are thankful to the international community. Otherwise, we couldn't feed the Afghans a day," said provincial Governor Fida Mohammed Khan. But he said the presence of Afghan camps has meant destruction of Pakistani farms and forests as the refugees scavenge for food and firewood.

Khan said in an interview that

the government was trying with-out much success to keep Afghans near their camps and outside the old city centre.

"The problem is they look the same as Pakistanis. They speak the same language. How can you stop them?" Khan said.

Indeed, the largest Afghan tribe, the Pushtuns, is also the dominant ethnic strain of north-west Pakistan. Though Afghan and Pakistani Pushtuns share different flags, they share the same Muslim religion, language, culture and physical appearance.

Most foreign observers praise the Pakistanis' tolerance and hospitality toward the Afghans despite an ominous development over the past year — terrorist bombings that have killed about 300 people, mainly Pakistanis.

Authorities blame them on agents of the Soviet-backed Kabul government, who, they say, are trying to whip up Pakistani resentment toward their

Afghan guests.

Whoever is responsible, the bombings have had their impact in the form of anti-Afghan demonstrations and newspaper editorials.

Khan said the wave of blasts has forced Pakistani police to increase their army of undercover agents and uniformed police at roadblocks.

Authorities also are paying more to informers, many of whom work in dangerous tribal areas that are not under state control. The price of an important tip has gone up.

"For what we used to pay one rupee, we now pay Rs 100 (\$6), Khan said.

Many Pakistanis wonder why Afghans haven't heeded calls by Afghan President Najib for national reconciliation and a cease-fire, and go home. Soviet officials have spoken of a possible withdrawal of their troops, starting this year.

Fooling

But Imam Abdul-Mannan, a 24-year-old Afghan, reflected a common doubt among refugees. "The Soviets are fooling us," he said. "You should never believe a Russian."

Mohammed Tawah Fakhr, 21, admitted some of his fellow Afghans have become arrogant in Pakistan.

"We know (the Pakistanis) are helping us. Over the years you get a sense that if someone loves you then she has to love you as a duty forever. It's natural," Fakhr said.

Abdul-Karim Muslim, a 30-year-old shopowner who sells Afghan handicrafts in Peshawar, said he feels there is a good chance the Soviets will withdraw. He said although his profits are at least 50 per cent higher than they were in Afghanistan, he would return when he feels it is safe.

Meanwhile, on a hilltop at the Mattani refugee camp, 28 kilometres (17 miles) south of Peshawar, men continued building mud huts for about a dozen newcomers from the north Afghan province of Kunduz, near the Soviet border.

Asked if they didn't think they would be leaving those houses soon, Kaftar Arab-Zadeh, 36, replied: "We still need roofs over our heads."

Iowa and New Hampshire have the first say

By Steve Gerstel

WASHINGTON. (UPI): Every four years, the unfathomable voters of Iowa and New Hampshire play havoc with the hopes of US presidential candidates, making contenders out of also-rans and plunging front-runners into political oblivion.

No two states combined, which have a total population of around five million, have had more of a say in the selection of the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates since the process has moved from the "smoke-filled" rooms to the state-by-state caucuses and primaries.

This year, however, the dominance of Iowa and New Hampshire may come under challenge from the 20 states, most of them concentrated in the south, who hold their caucuses and primaries March 8, exactly one month after Iowa and less than three weeks after New Hampshire.

But don't bet on it.

The chances are that by the time Iowa and New Hampshire get through picking over the field — seven Democrats and six Republicans — some of the candidates will be out of the race, stranded in the deep snow of the granite state, without the cash to travel to the warmer southern climates.

By the same token the voters of these two states, especially among the seven Democrats, will pluck one, maybe two candidates out of the pack and ship them south with money and momentum.

The recent political history of Iowa and New Hampshire are filled with such instances.

For instance, Gary Hart, with a second place finish in Iowa and a win in New Hampshire, immediately was plucked out of the pack and battled Walter Mondale to the wire for the 1984 nomination.

George McGovern in 1972 became a credible candidate by finishing third in New Iowa and a soaring second in New Hampshire to Sen. Edmund Muskie of

Maine, the heavy favourite. The two-state showing effectively ended Muskie's campaign and nailed down the nomination for McGovern.

Jimmy Carter became a serious candidate in 1976 by winning the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary and four years later thrashed Ted Kennedy in the same two states, leading to a second nomination.

New Hampshire, with its long history of holding the first primary in the nation, has done its share.

In 1968, Sen. Eugene McCarthy parlayed protest of the Vietnam war to finish a close second and drive President Lyndon Johnson out of the race; in 1972, New Hampshire failed to give neighbour Muskie a big enough margin over McGovern and killed his campaign; in 1980, Ronald Reagan, after losing the Iowa caucuses to a well-organised Bush, turned the entire race around by beating Bush 50 per cent to 23 per cent.

In fact, New Hampshire is so unpredictable that in 1964 state

Republicans chose as a write-in candidate Henry Cabot Lodge, the US Ambassador to Vietnam. There is little reason to believe that Iowa and New Hampshire will not play a similar role in 1988.

Among the Republicans, Rep Jack Kemp of New York, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig and former Delaware Gov. Pierre Du Pont will have to produce a decent showing, at least two strong third-place finishes, to keep them alive going south.

Bush, Senate Republican leader Robert Dole and evangelist Pat Robertson all have the money to go all the way.

Impact

But a Dole win in Iowa (he leads in the polls) could enable him to overtake Bush in New Hampshire (he leads in the polls there) and give the Senate GOP leader massive momentum going south. Conversely, wins by Bush in Iowa and New Hampshire probably would be the end of Dole.

Economic uncertainty threatens Kerala

By Sheela Teffi

COCHIN, India: A tiny coastal strip at India's southern tip, Kerala has long been considered a Third-World success story.

This densely packed state of 25 million boasts the country's highest literacy rate and a life style unmatched elsewhere.

Compared with the rest of India, population growth is in check, caste divisions are not as sharp, and land is more evenly distributed.

The state ranks low in per capita income, but few are malnourished.

Women have a higher status and economic clout than elsewhere in most of the country. People here live longer than do most Indians, and fewer children die at birth.

What India will be in a few decades hence, we have already reached in terms of education, health, and quality of life," says K. Gopalakrishnan, a political scientist in Kerala.

Model

In 1957, a UN study named Kerala a model for Third World development. However, people here question whether their successes can be replicated elsewhere.

"There are peculiar factors here. Our education and medical systems go back more than 100 years," says T N Krishnan, an economist and director of the Centre for Development Studies in Trivandrum, the state capital. "These were not built up overnight."

On top of that, economic uncertainty now threatens the good life of this tiny tropical state known for its palm trees, lush forests, and brilliant blue sea. Thousands of workers, lured from Kerala to the Middle East during the 1970s oil boom, have begun returning home as oil markets have collapsed.

India was once a major source of labour for the Gulf oil kingdoms, with almost 50 per cent of the Indian workers coming from Kerala. Now, Indians are being edged out by lower-priced labour from the Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and China.

The oil downturn already is taking its toll here. Annual remittances from overseas workers that topped \$700 million five years ago have dropped by half. Unemployment is inching up, and the largely agricultural econ-

omy shows little promise for growth.

Near the state's centre of Cochin, towns and villages are showing signs of hard times. Colourful mansions built with oil earnings are being abandoned by their financially pressed owners.

Widespread consumerism has become known here as "Gulf culture" is drying up. Foreign-made televisions, videocassette recorders, and other accoutrements of the state's oil nouveau riche are being sold off in second-hand markets.

Influenced

"It appears the crisis is here," says Krishnan. "It could have serious repercussions, economically and politically."

Kerala, with its long coastline, has been "buffeted" by international forces for centuries. Chinese and Arab traders stopped here before the time of Jesus, and explorer Vasco da Gama claimed Kerala for Portugal in the late 15th century. The Dutch, French and British followed, drawn by the ivory, teak, and spices of the famed coast.

Living in the most densely populated part of India, Keralites have long been outward looking and open to foreign influences. Christianity, legend says, was brought here in the first century by the apostle Thomas. A small community of Jewish traders from Palestine was already thriving. Islam came later.

Today, Kerala is a religious potpourri. While 50 per cent of the population is Hindu, Christians account for one-fourth of the people, and Muslims are a significant minority. A synagogues still exist in the old Jewish merchant quarter of Cochin, although many of its members have emigrated to Israel.

Missionaries who accompanied European colonisers set up schools, hospitals, and clinics which underlie Kerala's high living standard. Seventy per cent of the people are literate, twice the national average.

Education, widespread use of birth control, and better health care have freed Keralite women from the rigours of bearing large families, in contrast to their Indian counterparts. Kerala has both the lowest birth rate and the lowest incidence of child mortality in the country.

The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY IN HISTORY

1609 — Peace of Karlowitz is signed by Austria, Russia, Poland and Venice with Turkey.

1748 — Allies make new treaty for containing France.

1841 — British sovereignty is proclaimed over Hong Kong.

1885 — The Mahdi takes Khartoum in Sudan,

Republic Day of India

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Indian President calls for unity and integrity

"ON the eve of the 39th Republic Day, I extend to all fellow citizens my warmest greetings and good wishes."

"We recall on this happy occasion that 38 years ago, our country was welded into a sovereign, democratic republic assuring our people justice, liberty, equality and the dignity of the individual. From the snows of Kashmir to the pastures of Kanyakumari, from the sand dunes of Kutch to the lush green forests of Assam our people rejoiced over the new dawn that was dawning upon them."

"Our leaders knew that Swaraj was not so much an arrival as the commencement of a new and arduous journey. The real task lay ahead: of providing our people with a better quality of life. Our leaders were fully conscious that political freedom by itself cannot transform a backward society into a prosperous one. Social and economic reforms, therefore, claimed their highest priority."

"Working within the canons

of parliamentary democracy and through the mechanism of planned economic development, India has sought to meet its objectives of social justice with the active participation of the people. The progress the country has achieved over the last four decades is no small achievement. And seen in the context of our steadily increasing population, it is truly commendable."

Self-sufficiency

"These four decades have seen India achieve self-sufficiency in food and its efficient distribution among our masses. Our farmers have shown an astonishing ability to take to new farm-practices with enthusiasm. They have virtually set an example for the rest of us. I take this opportunity to offer my greetings and felicitations to the farmers of India and wish them continued success."

"The industrial infrastructure has also been firmly up. We are now in the forefront of newly independent countries producing basic industrial

goods. An impressive rate of overall growth has been registered during the present decade."

"There has been industrial growth in absolute terms and Indian industry has shown an ability to diversify and produce goods of considerable sophistication. We now produce consumer goods that satisfy not only our internal but also the external markets. I would like to offer my felicitations to Indian entrepreneurs in the public and private sectors, large and small, on their continuing enterprise."

"And as one who has had a long and cherished association with labour, I would like to emphasise that in this success story, the contribution of the working classes has been considerable. The nation owes a deep debt of gratitude to our labour."

"Yet, there is no room for complacency. The growing

population calls for a greater momentum of growth in good production and other wage goods. The climbing graphs of production must intertwine with the living and working conditions of our masses. The vast segment of people below the 'poverty line' still need to be helped out."

Unity

"I am confident that we can achieve this. The manner in which we, as a nation, have coped with one of the worst droughts of recent times demonstrates our ability to do so."

No policy or economy however well developed can be regarded as successful unless the people have shared goals and objectives towards national issues. There can be no difference among our people on preserving the unity and

integrity of the nation and no sacrifice can be too great for maintaining its sovereign independence. Within these parameters our constitution guarantees the protection of the religious, educational and cultural freedom and safeguards the rights of minorities and hill tribes. The secular nature of the nation is fully embedded in a number of articles of the constitution. It therefore behoves us, the people of India, to dedicate ourselves to the ideal of secularism on this auspicious Republic Day."

Unfortunately certain forces seek to impede that progress. Violent groups appealing to narrow loyalties and base passions cause repeated setbacks to our march towards progress. The spurt in communal riots in various parts of the country have caused considerable distress to the people. While the specific origins can be different in each situation, we are now

able to trace certain broad causative patterns. These are, in the main, religious fundamentalism and communalism. The cult of terrorism continues to vitiate life in certain parts of the country. It indulges in cowardly attack on the poor and the innocent who have nothing to do with the issues. Inevitably, reactions set in and threaten to perpetuate the vicious circle. We must however leave no one with the impression that terrorists can deflect our people from their fundamental values, the values of ahimsa and brotherhood. We must let no one underestimate the basic adherence of our people to the values of tolerance, non-violence and compassion which have marked Indian civilisation for millennia. It is my belief that the pressures and pulls of sub-national loyalties will give way to the far greater loyalty of our people to the Indian nation."

(Continued on page 11)

India overcomes challenges

"IT gives me immense pleasure to extend to all our countrymen warm greetings and best wishes on this most auspicious occasion, the 39th Republic Day of India. The past and the present are ever present realities in India but in the overall perspective of time one must closely and constantly study the former in order to achieve the maximum in the latter. The year 1987, thus, has been no exception to this as we have, as a nation, striven to overcome the threats and challenges posed during the year to build afresh in our quest for greater successes in the future. As a nation we have demonstrated the will to accept all challenges — and there were

some of the most difficult ones in 1987, in our post-independence history — and emerge the stronger from them. The past 12 months have further demonstrated the nation's resolve to maintain the national unity and territorial integrity of our country."

In our efforts aimed at further modernising and strengthening the economy of our country and focus appropriately on scientific and technological achievements, the government is constantly endeavouring to do its utmost and it is incumbent upon every Indian national living in the country or abroad to contribute his bit towards ensuring that maximum benefit accrues in the

field of science, technology and economic development by playing his role in fulfilling the country's goals and targets."

In both internal and external spheres, we have continued to strive for genuine peace, and are confident that this will be realised, as it continues to remain the paramount need of our time."

The relations between India and Kuwait, both at the government as well as popular levels, have been very good. This is a matter of special gratification to all of us. Contacts between our two countries at all levels are ever increasing and I am confident that our relations will be further strengthened and enriched to the mutual benefit of both our countries and people in the time to come."



Message of N.N. Jha, Ambassador of India.

Jai Hind

Message of N.N. Jha, Ambassador of India.

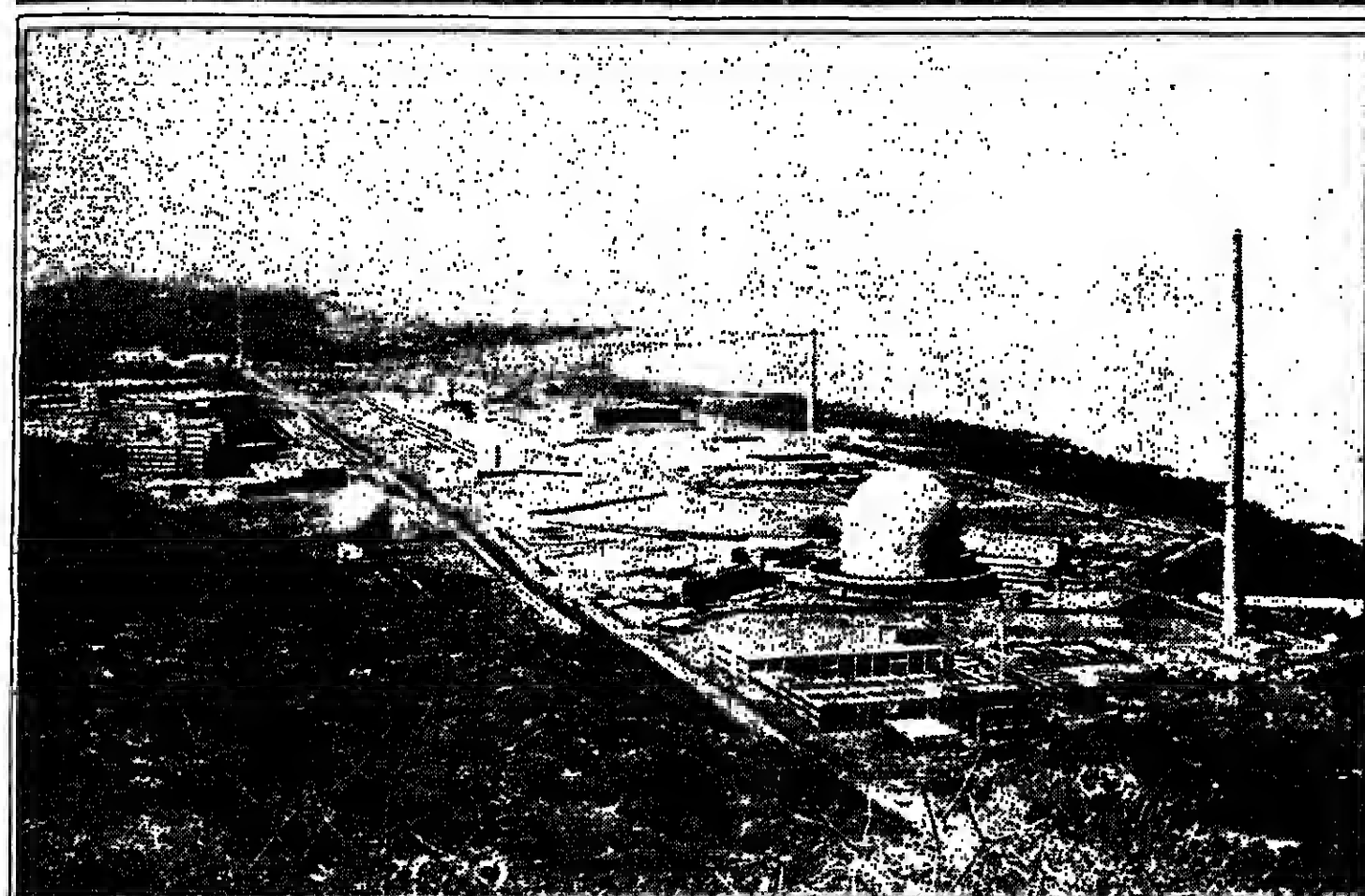
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The Atomic Energy Establishment in Trombay

By Bal Krishna

Peaceful uses of atomic energy

WHEN scientists in the world at the turn of the century started research in the potential of nuclear fission, what they aimed at was harnessing it for the generation of energy in the context of rapidly dwindling stocks of non-replenishable sources of power like coal and oil under the earth's surface. That some countries later diverted nuclear energy for the manufacture of atomic bombs and other weapons of mass destruction was an aberration, for which mankind has been paying the price in the form of living in perpetual fear of total destruction.

India for its part has steadfastly refused to enter into the race for the manufacture of atomic weapons. It has always pursued a policy of utilisation of nuclear power for peaceful purposes only, and is determined to continue with it hereafter.

The beginning of the Indian nuclear programme was not an event but an evolution. The pace of this transition from science and its eventual maturing into a full-fledged industry was guided by the foresight, leadership and spirit of adventure of Dr Homi Jehangir Bhabha. It is to him that India owes its present capabilities in the fields of designing, construction and operation of nuclear power plants, production of heavy water, preparation of high purity uranium, thorium, zirconium and similar nuclear-grade material, manufacture of instrumentation for health and safety as well as nuclear waste management.

At the initial stages, Dr Bhabha's dream of harnessing nuclear energy to supplement the power supply requirements of the country. Research was also conducted at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Bombay on its applications in irradiating vegetables to prolong shelf life, production of high yielding varieties of crops as well as in

the diagnosis and cure of certain ailments. These efforts and objectives were consolidated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1948 and the creation of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in the same year. While work in the areas of nuclear physics, electronics and instrumentation continued to be undertaken by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Bombay, laboratory research in chemistry and metallurgy was conducted by AEC. In 1949, the Commission set up the Atomic Minerals Division (AMD) and in 1950, the Indian Rare Earths Limited (IRE).

Reactors

The "nuclear fuel cycle strategy", which India would follow, was laid down in November 1954. At the Conference on "Development of Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes in India" at New Delhi, Dr Bhabha outlined the first stage of producing natural uranium reactors, followed by the second stage of producing natural uranium reactors, followed by the second stage of producing plutonium fast breeder reactors and, finally, the third stage of Uranium-233-thorium fuel cycle for producing power. As Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru said in his inaugural address at the Conference: "We want atomic energy for the generation of power. Power is the most important thing in developing a country's resources."

The growing energy needs of the country saw the establishment of three premier nuclear power stations at Tarapur in Maharashtra, at Kota in Rajasthan and at Kalpakkam near Madras in Tamil Nadu, with a

total capacity of 1230 MWe. Two units of 235 MWe each are expected to be commissioned at Narora in Uttar Pradesh in 1988 and 1989, while at Kakrapar in Gujarat two more units of 235 MWe would come up by the end of 1990 and 1991. Work has also been initiated at Kaiga in Karnataka and at Rawatbhatta in Rajasthan — the latter as an extension of the existing facilities at the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station. These projects, each consisting of two units of 235 MWe, are expected to be commissioned in 1994.

Some more projects under the 235 MWe reactor programme as also for 500 MWe units are in advanced stages of construction and should be commissioned in the next few years. This would take the total power generating capacity of the country to 10,000 MWe by the year 2000 A.D. The Nuclear Power Corporation, recently set up by the government, is currently engaged in the implementation of these projects.

Electronics

In the field of electronics, as a result of BARC's efforts, a modern manufacturing unit of the Electronics Corporation of India has been set up. Similarly, the Nuclear Power Corporation, the Heavy Water Projects and the Nuclear Fuel Complex have come into being. Research activities on fast breeder reactors were later concentrated at the Reactor Research Centre at Kalpakkam. The BARC earned Rs 25.4 million by supplying radioisotopes and related equipment to various users in the country and abroad between April 1986 and March 1987.

A good range of radio-

immunoassay — a versatile radioisotope procedure for the quantitative estimation of minute amounts of many important biological substances like hormones, antigens, drugs and infection agents — have also been developed by BARC. Its production unit, ISOPHARM is supplying radio-pharmaceuticals for use by 400,000 patients daily. A plant for radiation sterilisation of medical products has been in operation since 1974 and a wide range of radiography equipment and nuclear gauges are being made to meet the needs of the industrial sector. Study of the movement of silt with the use of radiotracers has helped in the dredging of harbours.

Food

Isotopes are also utilised to locate leaks in pipelines as was proved in the 140 km long underground pipeline that runs from Viramgam to Koyali in Gujarat. Expertise developed by BARC is available for studying seepage at dams as also in the treatment of sewage sludges. A plant for hygienisation of sewage sludges is being set up at Baroda.

In the fields of agriculture, BARC has developed genetic mutations of large varieties of pulses, wheat, rice, groundnut and jute which are not only sturdier, but have higher yields. Extensive work has been done in this area by way of devising means for preserving food for long periods.

A significant development in India's nuclear programme has been the commissioning of the Fast Breeder Test Reactor at Kalpakkam. This reactor which produces more plutonium and Uranium-233 from thorium than others is entirely Indian in design and manufacture and measures up to the most efficient reactors in the world. As Dr Raja Ramanna, former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, commented: "Nothing can be more exciting than these breeder reactors. It is like taming the tiger!" (PTI Feature)

A sight well worth waiting for

By R. Norman Matheny

AGRA, India: If someone tries to describe to you how beautiful the Taj Mahal is, just smile. When you come across the tale of love and devotion behind its creation, just enjoy the story, as a story.

Do statistics and descriptions add to the promise of this visual feast?

Oh! The words get in the way. Just forget all the above!

All you really need to know before arriving is that it is in India. Oh, if you insist, the location is just southwest of New Delhi.

If you are a tourist, this destination is already on the schedule.

If you are in India on business, why fight it? Chances are you may end up there anyhow. It's just the thing everyone does.

Once on the scene, as you stand in the archway, catching that first glimpse, words may be the last thing that come to mind.



Mystery and splendour of the Taj stuns even the most world-weary traveller.

After you remember to breathe again, maybe "harmonious" or "gleaming" or simply "lovely" will suit.

During an earlier brief visit to India, my taxi driver had assumed that, of course, I would not leave his country without a visit to the famous landmark.

Alas, my schedule was too tight for sightseeing.

But I recently made it to "the Taj" about 12 years after my first visit to India. I now wish that fellow had insisted a little harder and

just taken me to see it instead of following my orders.

The sight was well worth waiting for.

Though my eye was admittedly a bit travel-worn and jaded, my first impression was of surprise. "Oh, it really is worthwhile." As it turned out, another Monitor photographer got there within a week. We were on different assignments in India, and, well, doing the Taj Mahal is the thing.

India has been a democracy for 40 years, but before that it

was ruled for nearly 200 years by the British, and before that for even longer by the Moguls. The Taj Mahal, a Muslim-style structure in this Hindu land, is a memorial to Mumtaz Mahal, who was the favourite wife of Mogul Emperor Shah Jahan.

Symbol

Not only did she become the king's chief political adviser and most trusted counselor, but historians say she was always on hand to wipe the royal brow whenever he went into battle.

The empress was widely known for charitable deeds, providing money and food to the needy every morning, and giving funds to a long list of widows and orphans.

The royal pair were "inseparable" from the time of their marriage in 1612 until she died during childbirth in 1631. She had asked that he build "a monument of perfect proportions to symbolise their love."

Since Shah Jahan had been crowned "King of the World" on Feb. 4, 1628, cost was not a consideration.

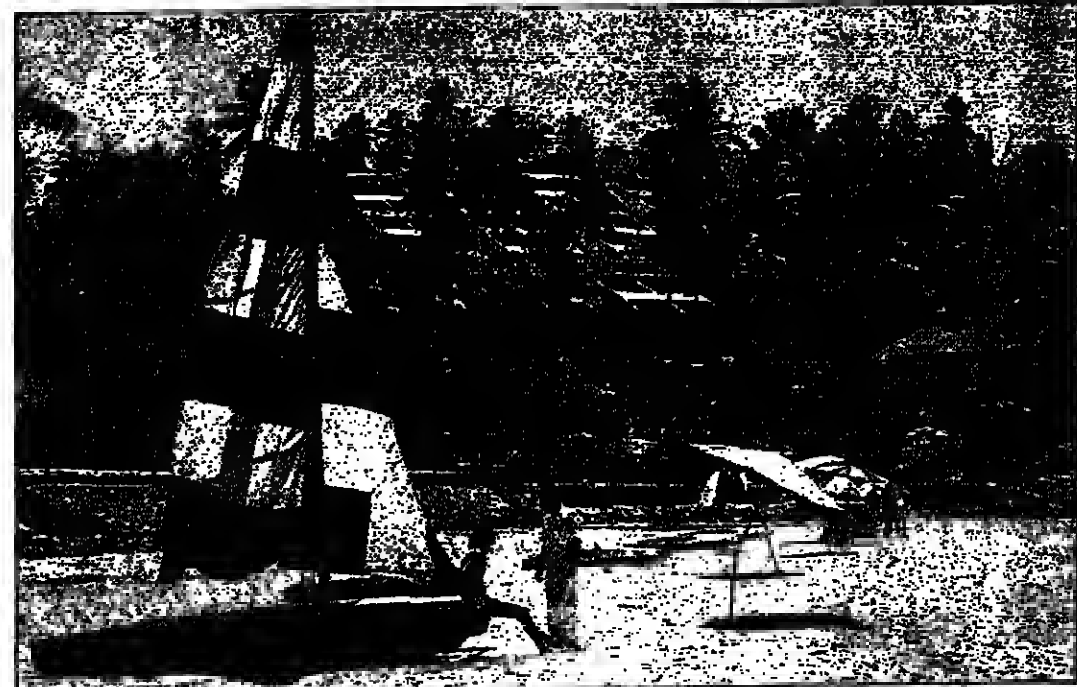
For the next 20 years about 20,000 master craftsmen and other workers fashioned the mausoleum with materials gathered from within and outside his kingdom. The engineers designed the four minarets to lean imperceptibly outward so that, should they fall, the dome, under which Mumtaz Mahal and Shah Jahan are buried, would not be hit.

The Christian Science Monitor.

India braces for tourist boom

By B.K. Goswami

THE inexhaustible charm of the Orient has the international tourist once again wheeling round the highway to India. Already, tourists coming to India have the longest stay compared to any other country in the world. An opulent future beckons Indian tourism.



The emphasis is now on adventure tourism.

THE mystique of the Orient has bounced back. India is once again a coveted destination on the itinerary of the international tourists. By present reckoning the coming years will see a tourist boom in India.

Statistically, though, India at present has a very small slice of the total tourist cake — just about 0.5 per cent. But the size of the cake is getting bigger, and so is India's share of it. Not only that, India is also having a bit of icing on the cake. Duration-wise, tourists coming to India have perhaps the longest stay compared to any other country in the world. On an average a tourist spends 28 days in India, a flattering tribute to the many splendoured things that India is.

India has the unique distinction of combining a remarkable historical and cultural heritage with marvellous scenic spots ranging from the majestic Himalayan peaks to over three thousand kilometre-long coast-line which is dotted with some of the finest beaches in the world.

Destinations

The sculptural spectacle of the sun temple at Konark, the ethereal beauty of the Taj, the awe-inspiring frescoes of Ajanta and Ellora, the finely crafted marvels of Khajuraho, the rock temple of Thanjavur, the forts and palaces of Rajasthan — these are only some of the names which have attracted tourists from all over the world in the recent past.

Add to the numerous game sanctuaries and national parks, the new destinations highlighting lesser-known cul-

tural and historical centres as well as adventure-related excursions and breath-taking variety of India's customs and rituals, languages and folk arts, handicrafts and artefacts — and one is left admiring the glory of India.

In a silent way, Indian tourism is going through a sea-change. So far the most popular tourist circuit in India has been, what is known as, the Golden Triangle i.e. Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. No doubt "Taj" is unparalleled for its romance and beauty but India is more than just "Taj Mahal."

Some of the areas which earlier did not get foreign tourists because of absence of infrastructure have now been provided with basic infrastructure and are increasingly becoming popular with tourists from overseas. A case in point is the Buddhist circuit in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which is attracting a number of tourists from Japan, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

On this circuit are located places like Kushinagar, Piprahwa, Sarawasthi, Rajgir, Nalanda and Gaya — places associated with the life of Lord Buddha.

Another upcoming stretch is the picturesque state of Orissa

which could not exploit its touristic potential because of inadequate infrastructure. Work on expansion and strengthening of Bhubaneswar airport is under way and by 1989 the airport will be able to handle charters and wide-bodied aircraft. Once that comes through the beaches and monuments of Orissa would be within easy reach of foreign tourists.

Adventure

Similarly, in the field of adventure-tourism a number of initiatives taken recently have started yielding results in the form of increasing influx of tourists.

After Ganga, river rafting has been introduced in Teesta which flows through Sikkim and North Bengal. Plans are under way to introduce water sports in Brahmaputra and Chambal rivers as well. Chilka lake in Orissa and Salal lake in Jammu and Kashmir — two other water bodies attracting attention. A water sports institute is coming up in Goa and its commissioning is expected to give a boost to water sports throughout the country.

The year 1988 will see the debut of heli-skiing in India. Decks have been cleared for

introduction of heli-skiing in Gulmarg (Jammu and Kashmir State), Manali in Himachal Pradesh state and Uttar Kashi in Uttar Pradesh State are other two areas which are being considered for introduction of winter sports.

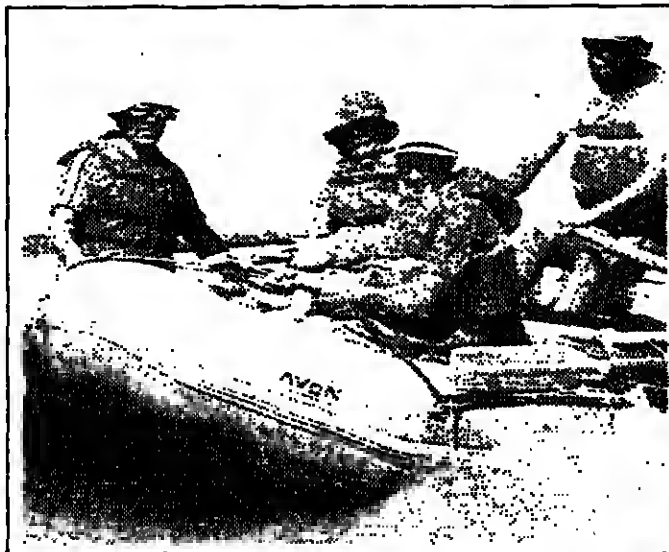
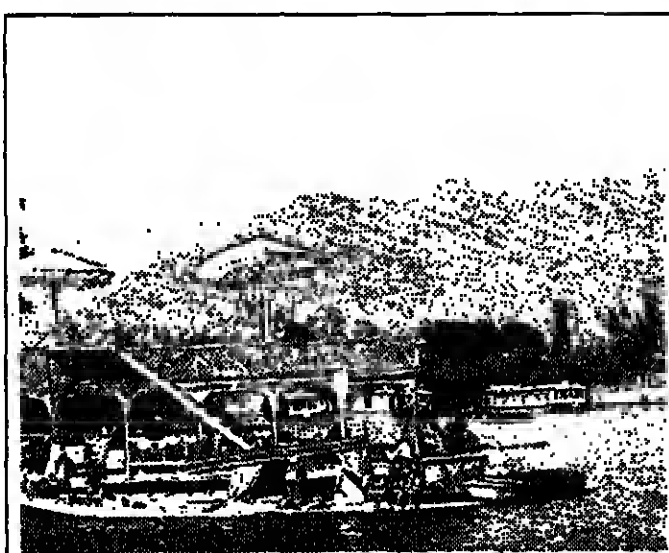
Hotels

Earlier in 1980-81 when a number of hotel projects were cleared for Delhi, detractors of the move believed that Delhi will have a glut of hotels and that there would be no takers for so many hotel rooms. They have been proved wrong. Today hotels are doing well in Delhi. The occupancy situation in hotels in Agra, Jaipur, Calcutta and Bombay is also the same.

To cope with the increasing tourist traffic the country would need another 25,000 to 30,000 rooms by the next decade. As many as 13,000 hotel rooms are in the pipeline. But that still leaves a deficit of 12,000 to 15,000 rooms. A number of incentives have been offered to entrepreneurs to invest in hotel-building. As many as 30 cities have been identified as places with growth potential where hotel accommodation needs to be augmented.

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Diamonds have become top earners for India.

Diamonds reach new markets

THE breath-taking success story of a sector of Indian economy has its basis in the glint of the lover's eye. With Rs 1.51 billion export, diamonds have become India's top earner in the foreign market. The industry people say the boom denotes the return of sentiment attached with diamond and the increasing numbers of young buyers.

By Ajay Raval

INDIAN diamonds are shining brighter and brighter. And it has become one of the top earners for India's export coffers.

Six of every ten diamonds used in the gamut of contemporary jewellery come from India and we are going to better this performance," says Jatin Mehta, head of one of India's largest diamond export firms. Only 15 years ago exports were barely two per cent of today's \$1.51 billion trade.

"The fact is that the country's unique low cost mass-production skills enable Indian manufacturers to import large quantities of cheap rough which cannot be economically cut and polished anywhere else. And India takes credit for 60 per cent of the world's rough diamonds. India is also the largest cutting and polishing centre in the world. Exports in 1986-87 topped 7.5 million carats.

Modern technology is propelling India to provide the quality and finish required for more expensive and better rough. The transition is not just in diamonds. It includes jewellery design and manufacture. The process has created an enormous labour base of half a million skilled polishers, entrepreneurial instincts through use of technology and growing professionalism.

Orders With Rs 200 million bulk orders received from India, the world's leading manufacturers of diamond processing equipment have established a presence in the country. They come from Belgium, Britain, United States and Israel. Wide range of equipment is being manufactured locally as well.

High speed polishing mills and grinding machines as well as peripheral tools are available off the shelf. Several ventures with foreign collaboration are being discussed and it is certain that India is on the threshold of a quantum leap in meeting global demands for almost the entire range of polished diamonds.

There are even more efficient jewellery manufacturing operations in France, Germany and Italy. But the fact that "India could produce small, cheap diamonds helped develop this jewellery and you

could say — democratised diamonds," says an international expert, Michael Cranham.

"India is now better placed to handle the Australian rough. But one has to say that the polished browns tend to have specific market, South-East Asian markets, the Middle-Eastern markets and some potential in South America. The Japanese market does not consume brown goods to any volume. And neither does the European. But the off colour diamonds are popular in some markets. Browns and yellows and, to a lesser extent, greens can be very attractive in jewellery," he adds.

Market

The largest market for Indian diamonds are the Japanese and the American middle class for they can afford to spend dollar five hundred every year on jewellery.

The boom was actually triggered in the late seventies through campaign launched to stimulate demand for large volumes of inexpensive rough diamonds. This brought lower period diamond jewellery within the means of millions of new consumers, mostly the young. Besides, over seventy per cent of all-diamond studded jewellery is set with smaller stones.

The import of diamonds into the country has always been regulated by the Indian government through licensing schemes. The schemes currently in force are based on export performance. With entitlements of 65-87 per cent depending on per carat realisation, imports can also be effected against firm export orders.

With the introduction of bulk licences, eligible traders can become distributors of rough diamonds within the country. They will supply to manufacturers against the latter's import licences. India's diamond export has successfully handled the dollar roller coaster. India's diamond trade took off when the dollar stood at a high against other currencies. Today even with a weak dollar, the "Indian" diamond industry is thriving.

The fashion jewellery explosion ripped open traditional markets and reached a wider and younger spectrum of customers, who had traditionally been kept out of the orbit of diamonds. Most importantly, the trend had shifted from investment to sentiment. Diamonds became things of beauty once again and Indian stones became a part of life.

The result was a 30 per cent rise in annual diamond exports sustained over the last few years. Having established a dominance in the world of diamonds, India is now set to make a mark in a related field—jewellery manufacture.

The government has backed this effort by setting up two free trade zones in Bombay and Delhi for jewellery manufac-

ture and export. This will enable Indian entrepreneurs to supply high quality machine-made jewellery of contemporary design, to dealers and retailers all over the world.

India is well placed to take advantage of the growing demand especially in the 1,000 dollar and lower range. The biggest plus point is the local availability of the right type of polished diamonds. Manufacturers from all over the world, including the high-volume jewellery-makers in South-East Asia, import major part of polished small diamonds from India incurring high handling costs. Having a source of polished diamonds at hand will give Indian manufacturers a competitive edge.

Exports

In Bombay, the Santa Cruz electronic export processing zone (SEEPZ), will house nine jewellery manufacturing units. Fourteen others are being set up in Delhi's Jhokewala Industrial Complex. These units will mark the beginning of large-scale organised manufacture of jewellery in India.

The projected exports from Bombay in 1988 is Rs 120 millions. The 1989 projection tops Rs 300 million. The Delhi units are projected to export a similar volume. In contrast, jewellery exports from the whole country amounted to only Rs 840 million in 1986, mainly hand-made gold jewellery to West India.

Apart from contemporary designs from the West some traditional Indian motifs will be improvised upon to produce a range of modern jewellery. Koh-i-noor, the brainchild of noted Japanese jewellery designer, Ogawa Kazuo, is a unique brand of jewellery which draws inspiration from Indian art, folklore and traditional jewellery techniques. The introduction of the Koh-i-noor range marks the first step of an integrated project for the promotion, development and marketing of Indian jewellery in the Japanese market. The jewellery was launched in July at a two-day exhibition held in Tokyo.

Koh-i-noor's distinctive feature is that it is essentially handcrafted, making it rich and decorative, although traditional techniques such as "Meenakari" and "Kundan" are also used. Kazuo modified the Indian design and finish. Koh-i-noor jewellery will be manufactured in India after the craftsmen have undergone training.

Artisans

Surat is the heart of the diamond processing industry in India, employing a total of around 200,000 artisans. The annual production of cut and polished diamonds at Surat is valued at about Rs11,000 million.

The projected diamond industrial park spread over 109.27 hectares, will be a conglomerate of industrial units, service units, an international trading centre with offices for merchants, housing units, a shopping complex, schools, hospital and other welfare amenities.

Most of the 50,000 jobs at the park will go to rural unemployed from economically backward families.

Bonds for NRIs

NEW DELHI: Government of India has decided to introduce a new instrument of saving to attract free foreign exchange from the Non-Resident Indians as part of its effort to mobilise additional foreign currency resources to offset partly the balance of payment problem.

According to official sources here, the new instrument which is likely to come in the shape of bonds will be a non-repatriable character, though having a fairly attractive rate of interest.

At present, two deposit schemes are available for the Non-Resident Indians: the foreign currency non-resident account and the non-resident external rupee account. And both of them are of a repatriable nature.

While the foreign currency non-resident account offers a maximum interest rate of 10 per cent for a period of three years, the non-resident external rupee

account offers an interest rate of 13 per cent for a period of three years.

On the present reckoning, the new instrument interest rate even though higher with the period of deposits also being enlarged to between five and seven years, the amount will not be allowed to be repatriated.

The bonds will be issued by the government directly or by the nationalised commercial banks for purchase by the Non-Resident Indians.

The sources said that the bonds which will be issued in foreign currency to the non-resident Indians will be of a cumulative nature with the interest accumulating till their maturity.

On the maturity of the bonds, however, the entire amount inclusive of interest will not be allowed to be repatriated and instead the funds will have to be used in India in rupees.

With the interest rates being

higher for this new instrument, the government expects to mop-up substantial savings of the NRIs for this cumulative scheme unlike the other two savings scheme provides for exchange risk cover.

Under the NRE account, the deposits are denominated in a foreign currency but the accounts are converted into rupees for purpose of interest payments and then reconverted into the foreign currency of choice of the NRI on maturity at the current rate of exchange rate for purposes of repatriation.

This is, however, still better than the foreign currency non-resident account which like all overseas deposits accounts is subjects to frequent exchange rate fluctuations.

The total deposits of the NRIs with the various nationalised banks have touched a level of Rs 8,700 crores under both the FCNR and the NRE accounts up to September 30, 1987.

On the brink of new era in super conductors

By Dilip Chakrabarty

INDIA is on the threshold of a new era of basic research in super conductivity whose application can make concepts like levitation, super conductivity transmission wires for electricity, and electronic devices like Josephson junctions used in sensitive galvanometers, and magnetometers possible.

India's world-famed scientist Dr Jayant Narlikar and his team at the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi are working on some samples near room temperature and if one is able to isolate this phase superconducting near 300 K, the collective inventions of the electric bulb, the transistor, and television will pale into insignificance.

Ever since it was discovered, several decades earlier that the electrical resistance of mercury goes to zero at 4.3 kelvin, it has been one of the major goals of the scientific community to identify a material with a similar behaviour at room temperature. The recent discovery of high temperature superconductivity in ceramic oxides in the 90 K range has caused considerable excitement all over the world.

In America, an IBM team, led by an Indian scientist, Praveen Chaudhari, has succeeded in creating a superthin crystal — 1/100th the thickness of a human hair — that can carry 100 times more current than was possible with earlier materials.

As a result of the discovery, according to an IBM spokesman, it may now be possible to manufacture supercomputers the size of a football, and still operate many times faster than the present generation of main-frame computers. The new material also offers the possibility of developing all kinds of new technologies.

Pioneers

The latest discovery can be a boon to mankind, and will greatly help India "which has been one of the pioneers in research in this class of materials," says Chaudhari.

High temperature superconductivity, a relatively new field of technology, celebrated its first anniversary December end. It is one of the most exotic phenomena observed in some solids and it is the state of matter in which the electrical resistance of the material goes to zero abruptly below a certain critical temperature which is characteristic of the material. In superconductors electrical energy is not dissipated and an electric current can flow in principle for ever.

Discovered in 1911 by Kamerling Onnes in mercury at a critical temperature of 4.3 kelvin, the investigation of the phenomenon and its practical application at first remained within the reaches of a privileged few who could afford expensive liquid helium as coolant. The highest ever reported transition temperature in any material till the start of 1976 was only about 23 K and scientists concluded hastily that it would take several decades to achieve a critical temperature above 77 K, the boiling point of liquid nitrogen in any material. This scenario has completely changed with the recent breakthrough in superconductivity in oxide materials, traditionally

believed to be low charge carriers against metallic systems known to have high density of charge carriers.

Superconductivity came to India by a strange coincidence. The TATA Institute for Fundamental Research, Bombay, a premier scientific institution set up by India's nuclear genius late Dr Homi Bhabha, organised an international conference at Bangalore in the first week of January 27, which was to be attended by distinguished solid state physicists from all over the world. The invitees included Nobel laureate Dr P.W. Anderson, Dr R. Vijayaraghavan and his colleagues in the solid state physics group were initially dismayed at the thin prospects ahead as a majority of the international participants said they would not be attending the conference because of a major discovery in the field of superconductors. After all, such discoveries earlier had proved to be false and in the last fifty years, super conductivity, which started at 4 K was no more than 23 K and scientists were more than happy if they could push it up a degree or two.

However, this time it turned out that the material that became super conductor was not metallic or alloy, which contains conduction electrons, but an oxide, a ceramic material normally considered outside the purview of high temperature superconductors. Certainly, oxides are known to be super conductors but with much less temperature of super conductivity. The last one known then was about 30 K by Bell laboratories. The discovery naturally sent waves of excitement among the scientists and technologists at the conference. In fact, Dr Vijayaraghavan recalls that Dr Anderson wrote his first theory on high temperature superconductors at the conference to explain this strange phenomenon of ceramic oxide super conductivity.

This promising compound was lanthanum-barium-copper oxide. Some scientists replaced barium with strontium and found the temperature going slightly higher. The discovery was made by Bednorz and Muller at IBM laboratories, Zurich Switzerland and was announced cautiously though it was no false alarm. Soon many laboratories worldwide could reproduce the compound and slightly improve upon it.

The Indian scientists had the fortune of listening to experts at the conference and they joined the race too. While the heat was on, there were more reports that higher temperature superconductors had been discovered close to 90 K. The Indians had then imitated the experiments done elsewhere. The giant leap, which brought super conductivity temperature to the realm of liquid nitrogen, enthused them further. Liquid nitrogen is relatively cheaper, easier to handle and can be made available to many places. The discovery was made by the Houston group in the United States led by the Chinese scientists Paul Chu and his collaborators.

The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, which had a tradition of work on oxides, identified the structure of the compound and studied its spectroscopic and other properties.

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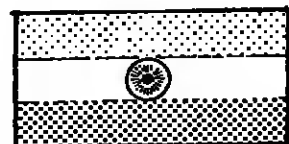
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Changing face of rural India

By Kamta Prasad

PHENOMENAL post-independence growth of towns and cities notwithstanding, rural India has not lost its traditional importance in the overall framework of the country's development. Villages, therefore, have occupied an important place in the strategies for ameliorating the living condition of the teeming millions.

In its quest for finding solutions to the age-old rural problems, the government has experimented with a varied mix of strategies. In the earlier years, the emphasis was mainly on developmental activities in areas like agriculture, animal husbandry, rural industries, social and economic overheads. Later on, it shifted to the development of the rural people.

The period of 40 years since independence can be divided roughly into two parts: (i) 1947-60 and (ii) 1961 to 1987. The strategy in the first period was both institutional as well as technocratic while that in the second has been mainly technocratic. The second period can be divided further into three sub-periods: (a) 1961 to 1965, (b) 1966-1970 and (c) 1971-87. The first sub-period is

characterised by the successful search for a viable strategy in agricultural development; the second one saw increasing application of the new strategy and the ushering in of the green revolution; and the third witnessed the emergence of special programmes for the development of backward areas and poor people.

System
The most important institutional reform carried out during the period 1947-60 related to the abolition of the intermediary rights in land and initiation of tenancy and other land reform measures. There was also an attempt to introduce cooperative farming, but it proved abortive. Another major development was the introduction of the famous Community Development in 1952. Designed to improve village life the programme

covered agriculture, transport and communication, health and education, welfare of women and children and development of cottage and small scale industries. Another hallmark of the period was the country-wide introduction of democratic decentralisation in rural areas through the panchayat raj system.

The abolition of intermediaries in land enhanced the socio-economic status of the middle peasantry, besides having a positive effect on agricultural production. Community Development programmes were, however, a disappointment. The panchayat raj institutions too, which appeared promising in the beginning, remained on the periphery. Agricultural production increased, but it was too inadequate to bring about rural prosperity.

Meanwhile, population continued to grow. Hence, food deficits and dependence on other countries for food imports persisted. This was viewed with much concern on account of the dangerous implications it had in the then prevailing cold war atmosphere and aggressive postures of neighbours like China and Pakistan.

Strategy
It was at this point that a very high priority was assigned to increased production of foodgrains. A new programme known as the Intensive Agricultural District Programme (IADP) was introduced in 1960-61. This concentrated resources in a few and more promising areas well endowed with irrigation and other basic facilities for agriculture. This was replaced in 1964 by a similar but crop-oriented programme known as Intensive Agricultural Areas Programme (IAAP). The Community Development Programme was abandoned.

This strategy was carried still further when the High Yielding Varieties Programme (HYVP) was launched in 1966-67 which ultimately led to what is known as the green revolution.

From the modest beginning in 1966-67, the areas sown under HYV seeds increased to more than nine million hectares in 1968-69 and to 15 million hectares in 1970-71. The consumption of fertiliser rose from 0.78 million tonnes (in terms of nutrients) in 1965-66 to 1.76 million tonnes in 1968-69, and 2.26 million tonnes in 1970-71. The net area under irrigation went up substantially.

Change
The credit for this goes as much as to the Indian farmer as to the government which took a number of measures to help the propagation of the new technology. These included appropriate credit and price policies, setting up of demonstration farms, opening of extension agencies and subsidising critical inputs. This went along with development of infrastructural facilities like power, transportation, storage and marketing. Consequently, agriculture for the concerned farmers was transformed from an impoverished way of life to a profitable business occupation.

The same strategy was, therefore, continued for subsequent years resulting in rise in foodgrains output from 69 to 131 million tonnes and wheat



Work at a rural workshop.

output from 12 to 35 million tonnes during the period 1964-65 to 1978-79. Since 1976, India has been self-sufficient in foodgrains and now maintains a sizeable buffer stock too.

The modernisation of agricultural technology has brought about a palpable change to the texture of rural life. It became more diversified. Electricity was introduced. Role of market became more important. Mode of transportation started changing from animal driven vehicles to mechanised ones. And urban contact brought its own rewards.

However, since 1971, it came to be increasingly realised that the benefits from HYV technology were derived mainly by better off farmers in better off areas. The earlier expectation that the benefits from overall growth will trickle down to all parts of the country and to all sections of the rural society did not materialise. The problem of rural poverty came to the fore in a more acute form.

This underscored the need to pay special attention to backward areas and poor people. Consequently, the strategy of rural development gradually underwent a change in favour of a direct attack on rural

poverty and backwardness. The HYV programme, of course, continued unchanged. But it was supplemented by a number of beneficiary-oriented special programmes. The former provide opportunities of either self or wage employment to the rural poor through such well known programmes as the Integrated Rural Development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme.

In addition, there has been a programme for small and marginal farmers. The latter lays emphasis on development of dry, drought-prone and tribal areas through Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme and Integrated Tribal Development Programme.

All of these programmes provide for various types of subsidies and supply of bank credit and other resources on a priority basis to the poor in rural areas. These programmes are bureaucratic rather than participative. They are planned and executed by governmental machinery.

The new strategy is essentially technocratic in nature

rather than institutional or structural and are undertaken within the prevailing socio-economic structure. Attempts at structural reform through imposition of ceilings on large land holdings and distribution of ceiling surplus land to the rural poor have also been made. But they have met with limited success because of low land person ratio on the one hand and the prevailing power structure on the other.

Consequently, authorities have come to rely more and more on the technocratic approach, the success of which depends directly on the amount of resources set apart for this purpose. This has been extremely limited so far with the result that the programmes have yet to produce the desired impact. Given the overall shortage of resources, a substantial increase in resource allocation in favour of programmes for the rural poor is possible only by the difficult process of diverting resources from other fields and sectors. There is also a need to ensure proper utilisation of resources by strengthening the delivery system and raising the quality schemes.

Rural development is not an easy task, whichever alternative we follow.



Modernisation of agricultural technology has brought a palpable change.



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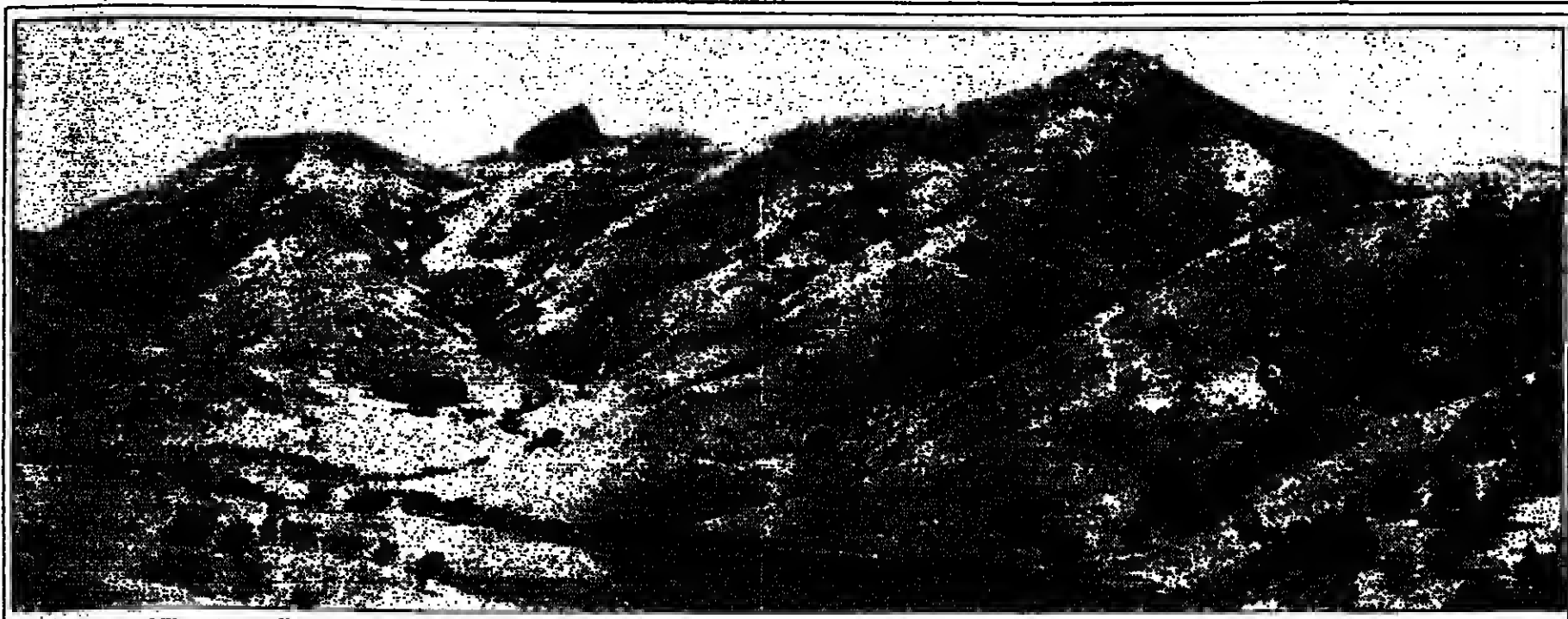
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The picturesque hill resort was discovered by an Englishman in 1820.

Ooty — the pride of blue mountains

SITUATED in the Nilgiris — the Blue Mountains — where the Eastern and Western Ghats (hills) converge, at a height of 7,500 feet above sea level, and boasting of an atmosphere characteristic of Victorian England, is Uthagamandalam — Ooty, as it is better known.

Called the Queen of Hill Stations, this fascinating hill resort was once the favourite summer retreat of most Englishmen and maharajas, who sought solace from simmering heat in the cool climate of the mountains. Ever since its discovery by John Sullivan, collector of Coimbatore, in 1820, Ooty has attracted and captivated a myriad of people from all walks of life. A noteworthy feature of this place is the nonpareil climate — salubrious and conducive to a healthy life. Summer temperatures vary between 10 and 25 degrees Celsius and the winter between 0 and 21 degrees. Sometimes the barometer drops below zero in winters. But for the rainy season when Ooty is drizzled into wearing a wet look, the climate during the rest of the year is most clement and pleasing.

in absolute harmony. Now Ooty has blossomed into a full-fledged, round-the-year tourist resort. Every year millions of tourists from various parts of the country pour into this lovely hill resort to imbibe its fresh and pure air, delight in its scenic beauty, and indulge in sightseeing sprees. The place has also blossomed into a favourite honeymooning paradise for newly-weds. One of the major attractions

of Ooty until recently was the activity at the Goodwood, during the racing season. The credit of initiating horse racing in Ooty, as early as the 1900's goes to the British.

Every year, during April when the racing season commences, thousands of lovers of horse racing flock to Ooty to punt at the Goodwood. The most important racing events are the Nilgiris Derby, with a substantial purse, the Colts

trial stakes, the Fillies trial stakes and the Governor's cup. With the abolition of racing by the Tamil Nadu government the influx of tourists seems to have waned a bit.

Peaks Another important attraction, forming part of the summer festival, is the annual two-day floral carnival. Apart from the display of hundreds of varieties of flamboyant flowers, orchestra and musical performances by celebrated artists form an added attraction. This is a sort of annual fête, facilitating the get-together of thousands of people from the innumerable villages and hamlets of the Nilgiris. A boat race, dog show, plays and concerts, a car festival, exhibitions and fruit show at Coonoor is also held every year.

There are many compelling and enthralling places of tourist importance in the Nilgiris. Noteworthy among them are Mukurthi, about 30 km from Ooty, having a scabrous peak and a beautiful lake with crystal clear water, famous for trout fishing. Mukurthi, which was once bounding in game is a

famous "haunt" of foreigners and adventure lovers. Upper Bavani, 50 km from Ooty. Avalanche, Moyal, Sissara, the Nilgiri peak, Kodanad, the Kudha hills and the Ammal forests are places that would really captivate the travellers and infuse in them a sense of adventure and exploration.

The innumerable thickets and forests, the scabrous atolls, the beautiful lakes and dams, the mountain streams, the tea estates, the skyrocketing trees and the verdant milieu, makes the Nilgiris a trekkers paradise. The Nilgiris is also famous for its English medium schools catering to the needs of both boys and girls. The schools have been imparting knowledge and education, grooming and shaping the careers and moulding the personalities of thousands of eager and ardent youngsters from all over the country.

The delightful climate, the marvellous scenery, the beautiful churches, the Nilgiri library, the Lawley Institute and other clubs, a lot many other relics of the British empire.



The Nilgiri Express — a relic of the past.

Forest The Nilgiris lie between the latitudes of 11° and 12° North and the longitudes 77° and 79° East. A unique phenomenon of this part of the world is the remarkable resemblance of its flora and fauna to that of the Himalayas. The Nilgiri Thar is believed to be a cousin of the Himalayan Thar, and the Nilgiri Martin is akin to the yellow-throated Martin of the Himalayas. The laughing Thrushes, and fairy blue birds, and the flying lizards are examples of some of the Himalayan fauna found in the Nilgiris. The rhododendron, which flourishes in the Nilgiris, is, perhaps, found only in the Himalayan slopes. The whole of the Nilgiris is encompassed by a wide expanse of wilderness. The Nilgiris is a veritable bazaar of fascinating and intriguing plants and forest resources. Among the various types of forests found in India, as many as eight types — tropical wet evergreen, tropical moist deciduous, tropical dry deciduous, semi-evergreen, shrub thicket, tropical montane, sholas and grasslands — and perhaps more, are found in the Nilgiris. The rhododendron, which flourishes in the Nilgiris, is, perhaps, found only in the Himalayan slopes. The whole of the Nilgiris is encompassed by a wide expanse of wilderness. The Nilgiris is a veritable haven of fascinating and intriguing plants and forest resources. Among exotic species, the eucalyptus thrives in the Nilgiris.

Inhabitants The important inhabitants of the Nilgiris include the Todas, the Kothas, the Kurumbas, the Irulas — all living in depleted numbers — and the Badagas and the Kannadigas. The Todas who live in the Arcadian fashion and having a nomadic lifestyle and following strange customs, have kindled the curiosity of many anthropologists and historians for ages. Even Prince Philip of Greece is said to have come all the way to this lovely place to study this peaceful, pastoral tribe. Todas, of unknown ancestry, were the oldest inhabitants of Ooty. The Badagas, having a unique culture of their own and dominating the Nilgiris, number around 400,000. They are a bonhomous and hospitable lot. The Nilgiris is also the domicile of thousands of Anglo-Indians, Malayalees, Jains, Marwaris, Muslims, Sri Lankans, Tamils, Tibetans and people of other Hindu communities who freely mingle with each other and live

JAI HIND



Greetings to the people of India on this joyous occasion.

AIR-INDIA

Rafting on the Ganga

By Ashok Dilwali

GANGA, the holiest of the Indian rivers, rising in the Himalayas, offers a lot of adventure and sport fun. One can float down the rapids of this mighty river in rafts to a thrilling and adventurous sport. Recently, an International

Rafting Rally was held on the Ganga. Competitors from Norway, India, UK and US participated.

Rafting basically involves floating down the river in various kinds of boats, made of a very light material or fibreglass. Many expert canoeists even pedal up the flow of

the river. Rafters experience great thrills when they pass through patches of high boulders on the way. This gives rise to many rapids and because of the turbulence of the Ganga, rafters have to balance the boat carefully and skilfully. They wear lifejackets even though all rafters are expert swimmers.



Rafters negotiating a rapid.

Indian President calls ...

(Continued from Page 7) No society exists in isolation. India cannot and has not remained unconcerned about developments around it. India's desire to see the end of conflicts goes beyond this part of the world. It is matter of

pride for us that our work against the arms race as exemplified in the six oasions five continent initiative for peace and disarmament and to the Delhi Declaration, has led to the building of world opinion in that direction.

As we enter the 39th year of our Republic let us all unite under this banner and rededicate ourselves to the ideals which our flag symbolises.
Jai Hind

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PEOPLE

One of the last living links with the Paris of the 1920's

Art deco master Erte working on, at age 95

By Steve James

NEW YORK: Erte likes to tell how the Russian ballet impresario Sergei Diaghilev gave him the advice that set the tone for his artistic career.

"Never refuse money," he told me... and I never did," said the 95-year-old artist, considered by many to symbolise elegance in that most 20th century of styles, art deco.

No one can accuse the Russian-born Erte of being a shrinking violet.

He has worked in mediums that ensure a high profile and, often, a high price. Bronze sculptures he unveiled recently in New York sold for at least \$5,000 dollars, his new signed graphics for \$3,000, and a line of gold and diamond alphabet brooches goes for \$1,200 a letter.

The generation between the wars grew up with his sketches in Harper's Bazaar magazine defining the ultimate in fashionable living. Erte's prints of stylised women in silks, satins, or cocoons of leopard fur, have been mass-produced in posters.

"Oh, she is beautiful and elegant," he said of the archetypal "Erte woman". "She is intelligent, but not pretentious — above all, she is charming."

His costumes have draped the bodies of glamorous women (Marion Davies, Norma Shearer, Zizi Jeanmaire, Barbra Streisand) and graceful dancers, like Anna Pavlova, the Russian ballerina who perhaps came closest to embodying the "Erte woman".

His sets have been the backdrop for ballet, Broadway and Folies Bergeres. He turns out jewellery, sculpture and prints at a rate that would exhaust artists a third his age.

He is one of the last living links with the Paris of the 1920's. There, Diaghilev melded choreography with music, sets and costumes to produce the innovative "total concept of ballet."

He used the gifts of dancers Nijinsky and Pavlova, the choreography of George Balanchine and Serge Lifar, the music of Stravinsky, Debussy



Russian-born Erte, the artist considered by many to symbolise elegance in that most 20th century of styles, art deco.

and Richard Strauss, and sets by Picasso, Chagall and Matisse.

And he used Erte for sets and costumes.

"Paris was wonderful in the 1920's," Erte told Reuters.

"But the Paris of today is too busy. I can no longer walk about freely," he said in soft French-accented English during an interview in New York, where he unveiled new art works and celebrated his 95th birthday with a fete in his honour.

Dance was his main love, and he said: "I would have liked to be a dancer, but then would I still be performing at 95?"

He recalls Nijinsky in Diaghilev's ballet Russe premiere of

"L'apres-midi d'un faune" (Afternoon Of A Faun), a splendour he said that has not been surpassed.

Of the ballerinas, Pavlova was his favourite. "She was floating," he said.

Born Romain De Tiroff in St Petersburg on November 23, 1892, Erte (he is just RT in French) was raised an aristocrat, as befitted the son of an admiral in the Tsar's navy.

"I started to draw at three and was influenced by little dolls my father brought back from India and Persia," he said, adding that his fascination with fashion also dated to childhood, seeing his mother dressed for a ball.

At 20 he moved to Paris to

study architecture at the Ecole de Beaux Arts. But within nine months he was working as a dressmaker with such designers as Poiret and Henry Bendel and dressing the first in a long line of beautiful women — Mata Hari, the World War One spy.

"Her face was not very beautiful, but she had a beautiful body," he recalled.

He sent sketches to Harper's Bazaar and William Randolph Hearst signed him to an exclusive contract with the magazine in 1916. For 20 years, his illustrations of dresses and jewellery defined the look of the 20th century woman.

His designs featured graceful folds and witty details using the most luxurious fabrics,

especially furs.

"It's very warm here and I brought all my furs," he said on an unseasonably mild autumn day in New York. "Of, I love fur, don't you?"

Cross

He left Harper's in 1936 to design costumes and sets for theatre and film, but his love affair with Hollywood was fleeting and he soon fled, declaring California too crass.

"I signed a contract to do sets for two films and arrived in Hollywood to a beautiful reception," Erte recalled.

"I wanted to start work straight away and asked to see the script. They said 'we don't have one yet, but just do your sets and we'll make the film around them,'" he chuckled.

Six months later, there was still no script, so he took up an offer with the Folies Bergeres and returned to Paris, where he has lived in the same house in the Bois de Boulogne for 52 years, working every day surrounded by his pet cats.

"Russia is full of wonderful memories of my childhood, but I have never been back because I am afraid it would be spoiled for me."

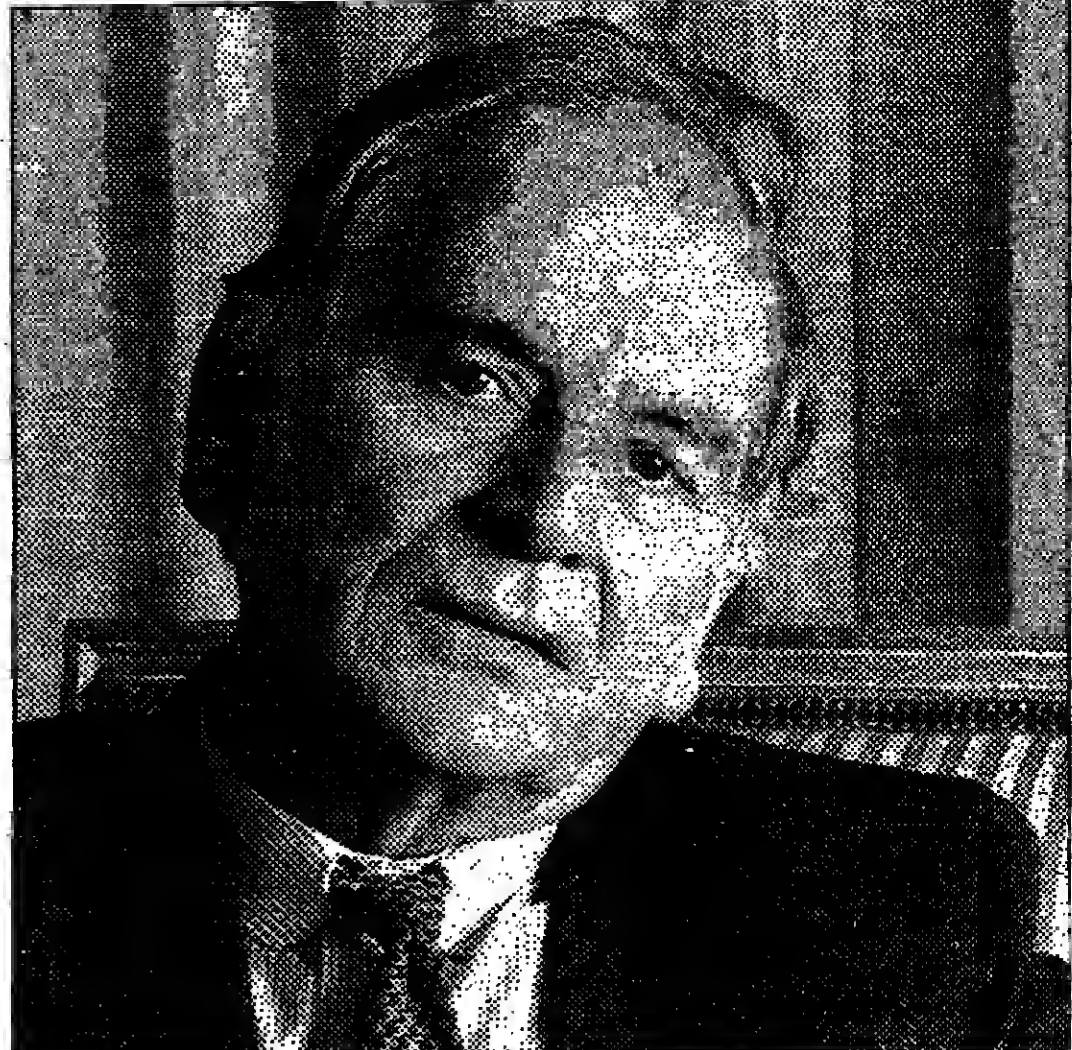
As recently as 1980, he designed sets for a production of "Der Rosenkavalier", and still works (to the sound of Beethoven and Schubert) on his sculpture and graphics.

Although his images still have that 1920s grace, Erte is not rooted in the materials or technology of that age. He was the first to use Plexiglas in theatre design and has made wigs from aluminium. His graphics employ the newest in embossing and hot-stamping techniques.

His latest work is so technically advanced it actually bonds the metal to the paper fibre," said David Rogath, co-owner of the Chalk and Vermilion Gallery where Erte's new works are being shown.

But he doesn't keep up with fashion nowadays. His favourite period was just after World War One. "Everything was so carefree. I like today that there is variety and choice."

He knows what he hates, though — miniskirts.



Costurier and businessman Pierre Cardin.

Ambassador of style

IT is characteristic of the fashion industry's peculiar brand of creative snobbery that its most successful couturier, the man whose label is scattered most liberally across the globe, is the one its disciples out for criticism.

Pierre Cardin, who scandalised the fashion world with his innovative use of vinyl and plastic in the sixties and who invented a bubble dress early in the seventies, is today, it sniffs, a businessman who risks debasing the ancient craft by lending his name to blow-driers and sardine tins, cruise ships and restaurants.

In 1981 he amazed everyone by buying Maxim's. In 1985 when he was honoured with one of the first fashion Oscars, it was more for his skills at "le

marketing" than for the drape or cut of his clothes. Cardin remains unperturbed.

Having told me once that he believes he is another Napoleon, blazing a trail for France, he now adds that he is Merco Polo, too. His travels take him to the 95 countries where he runs between 650 and 700 licensing (deals the figure is constantly growing), which earn him more than £2 billion a year.

"I am not ashamed of making money," Cardin says. "I am a businessman but with certain sensibilities. I am a designer as well as acting as ambassador for France and for its style."

Glasnost

Cardin is the first couturier of glasnost, with two shops now opened in Moscow and a branch of Maxim's in Peking. "I democratise fashion. I don't want simply to make clothes for the rich."

When he realised that designing two couture collections as well as ready to wear for men and women did not take up all of his year, this man of fashion branched out into what he calls "l'art de vivre", or lifestyle.

Working a 13-hour day in his fanbois St Honore studio, Cardin insists that he draws the first sketch for everything he puts his name to, from refrigerators to chocolate wrappers, to a lapel or a shoulder line. He signs every cheque

and is his own manager.

The day before I spoke to him he had attended meetings to discuss ideas for a new line of Maxim's low calorie food and to work on plans for the Maxim's hotel he opens in South Korea for the Olympic games. But he insists that he remains first and foremost a couturier. "Look," he says as he dashes off a convincing sketch for me. "I work very fast. I create, I talk."

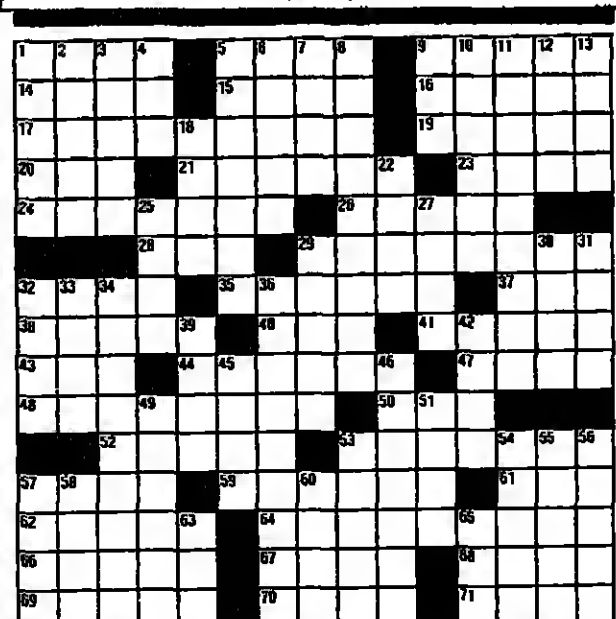
Rivalry

He is not going to be fazed by the rivalry offered by Paris's new design star, Christian Lacroix. "He has great esprit," he says. "His style is the opposite of my own but I respect him."

Cardin relishes his pioneering work in Africa, which started 15 years ago. He employs 4,000 Zulus in his clothes factories there. "They arrive naked and get into overalls to pedal furiously at my machines, and they get undressed to go home." He is proud of being first to foresee the opening of the huge market in China and the Soviet Union.

Raisa Gorbachev owns a Cardin couturesuit. But she did not wear it in Washington. He speaks warmly of her style. "She is the first woman to take part in public life in Russia. She has pretty manners and is tres raffinee."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Sticky stuff
 - 5 Ran, as Madras
 - 9 Singer's collection
 - 14 Not common
 - 15 Easy stride
 - 16 — porridge
 - 17 Add fanciful details
 - 19 Fairy tale characters
 - 20 Aunt, in Avila
 - 21 Villain's glances
 - 23 Major Spanish river
 - 24 Groups of nine
 - 26 One of the Messiahs
 - 28 Part of "to be"
 - 29 Small bell-shaped flower
 - 32 Health resorts
 - 35 Candy used for decoration
 - 37 Promising words
 - 38 Companion of Penates
 - 40 Parisian season
 - 41 Dapleto
 - 43 Part of MOMA
 - 44 Spelunker's milieu
 - 47 Noun-forming suffix
 - 48 Gibbons and grivets
 - 50 Enjoy an entree
 - 52 Not as coarse
 - 53 Worthy of redemption
 - 57 Reddish-brown shade
 - 59 Nullify
 - 61 — Tin Tin
 - 62 Ear bone
 - 64 Pay no heed
 - 66 Eight voices
 - 67 Dweller in Eden
 - 68 Arrow poison
 - 69 Irritable
- DOWN**
- 70 Coastal soars
 - 71 Curve
 - 1 Nickname for Margaret
 - 2 Astrologer's thin metal charm
 - 3 Metropolitan
 - 4 Ever, poetically
 - 5 Undiscovering
 - 6 Sources of supply
 - 7 Fencing rapier
 - 8 Pocket pistol
 - 9 Mill address
 - 10 Old tale
 - 11 Attire, e.g.
 - 12 Consumer
 - 13 Intermediate: Prefix
 - 18 Glacial ridges
 - 22 Blackthorn fruit
 - 25 Comfort
 - 27 Fan up a DM
 - 29 Fills
 - 30 Like a Pinder poem
 - 31 Corn cake
 - 32 Happy beginning
 - 33 Henry's sixth consort
 - 34 Archeologist's find
 - 35 Veneration
 - 36 Give a once-over
 - 42 — tal
 - 45 Solar disc
 - 46 Tides up
 - 49 Stately dance
 - 51 State positively
 - 53 European juniper
 - 54 Selly solution
 - 55 Flaxen cloth
 - 56 Finished
 - 57 Melee
 - 58 Fairy tale start
 - 60 Belongings
 - 63 Porker's place
 - 65 Playing marble

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

JABIS AGNES MATA
ACRE BLAME AVAS
GREENBAYPACKERS
SOLDIERS HERON
LYE SCAR
BELLES COOP ABC
ATOT ERASE BOO
CHRISVERTILLOYD
KOR UNITS TRAE
SSE PILE BLEARS
REDS CHIA
EMEER CHASTISE
SEVEBALLESTERDIS
TREK REESE AMIS
EENY TAIFTS KALIE

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries (March 21 - April 18)</p> <p>You will be better able to manage your financial affairs. You should not try to get into bad habits. Nor should you do things in a certain way because you had always done them that way.</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>The Moon's influence will help you to put your foot down. You should let yourself be guided more than anything by commonsense. Spend a little more time with a friend of yours. Be cordial.</p>	<p>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>Do not permit yourself to be dictated to. You will be better able to make up your mind. You should try to be a little more patient. Do not expect from others more than you would be prepared to give in return. Be resilient.</p>	<p>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)</p> <p>You will be able to do something to get out of a rut. Try to avoid saying anything you might later regret. A tendency towards extravagance must be kept in check. Be frank.</p>
<p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>The Moon's better influence will help you to face up to your responsibilities. You should not allow yourself to be deceived by appearance. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be sincere.</p>	<p>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</p> <p>You will be able to do something to reduce tensions. You should not think you are always right whilst others are always wrong. Examine your conscience. Be less conspicuous.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will be better able to face up to your responsibilities. You should help a friend who is going through a difficult patch. The situation is not quite what it seems so take care. Be cordial.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>An infection however small should not be neglected. You will be better able to face the facts. A financial problem should be dealt with right away. Be a little more tidy.</p>
<p>Gemini (May 21 - June 21)</p> <p>You should do something about your weight before you have to. Do not leave until later what you know should be done now. Keep your wits very much about you. Be punctual.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</p> <p>Do not allow yourself to be intimidated. You will find it easier to get to the bottom of things than you had at first thought possible. Keep up to date. Be less impolite.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>You will find it easier to stick to your plans, but you must not slacken the pace. Others are more inclined to listen to what you have to say. You should pay a little more attention to your personal affairs.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</p> <p>You are a little too liable to leave things to chance. Do not believe all you would like to believe. Make sure you look out for what is happening around you. Be moderate.</p>

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- 20 free memberships of Roses Video
- 250 recorded cassettes of Kuwaiti songs from Youssef Haidar and Parlor Recording Company — Sharq. Tel. 2424322
- KD. 100 worth of children's toys and games from Mesabi Toy Shop — Alhadi Market
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Economists differ on US growth in '88

WASHINGTON, Jan 25, (Reuters). A leading economist predicted yesterday that US economic growth would continue through 1988 while another forecast a recession.

The conflicting testimony came at a hearing of the congressional joint economic committee where Allen Sinai of the Boston Co. said he expected lower US economic growth in 1988 while Manufacturers Hanover's chief economist Irwin Kellner warned a recession was likely.

"If nothing worse happens than the (October stock market) crash, the most probable result for 1988 is growth in the two per cent to 2.5 per cent range, down from last year's 3.5 per cent growth, but no real disaster," Sinai said.

Prudent

"In my opinion, it would be prudent to expect a recession this year — not a bad one, but clearly a change from the growth environment of the past five years," Kellner said in his testimony.

The United States has had a record five straight years of economic growth and the Reagan administration is predicting another year of growth, but at a slower rate than 1987.

Kellner said he made his prediction last spring before the stock market decline based on a number of factors including restrictive monetary policy, faltering consumer spending and a rise in inflation.

Growth

Sinai said he expected continued growth at a slower rate because of improved foreign trade, rising real net exports and increased capital spending offset by reduced consumer spending and slower home sales and construction.

"A weaker first half (one to two per cent growth) and stronger second half (three to four per cent) is expected," Sinai said.

The Reagan administration's economic projections, released on December 23, call for real US Gross National Product to grow by 2.4 per cent between the fourth quarter of 1987 and the fourth quarter of 1988.

This was lowered from the 3.5 per cent growth projection made last summer because of the effects of the stock market decline, the council of economic advisors said.

The administration's complete economic report for 1988 will be issued next month.

Gas use and output up in Europe

GENEVA, Jan 25, (Reuters). Europe and North America used 3.7 per cent more natural gas last year than in 1986, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) reported today.

The increase was higher in Europe at 4.8 per cent, than in North America where the United States and Canada each registered a two per cent rise, the 34-member ECE's gas committee said.

Sweden recorded the biggest consumption increase with a jump of 35 per cent, followed by Finland 33 per cent, Yugoslavia 12 per cent and Switzerland nine per cent. There was a drop of two per cent in the Netherlands.

Consumption

Consumption was up 5.5 per cent in the Soviet Union, but down 1.3 per cent for its six East European partners as a whole.

Natural gas production in the ECE region, which covers all European countries plus the United States and Canada, rose more slowly than consumption at 2.1 per cent. The Soviet Union and the US accounted for more than two-thirds of total output, producing 46 per cent and 32 per cent respectively.

Imports grew by 6.8 per cent in Europe, but decreased by 1.1 per cent in the United States, the ECE said.

NBK profits up

NATIONAL Bank of Kuwait, the country's largest, has increased its 1987 cash dividend, reflecting higher profits last year over 1986, a bank official said yesterday.

The bank said it would distribute a cash dividend of 22 per cent of its capital or 22 fils per share compared to 20 per cent in 1986. Bonus shares will be issued worth 10 per cent of capital, unchanged from 1986, or one share for every 10 held.

In 1986, the bank earned KD25.5 million on assets of KD3.03 billion, making it by far Kuwait's most profitable bank. End-1986 capital was KD 70.3 million.

Takeshita pledges to overhaul tax system

Japan 'must help US to bolster world economy'

TOKYO, Jan 25, (Reuters). Japanese leaders warned today against a further weakening of the dollar against the yen but prompted only minor hiving of the US currency.

A further erosion of the dollar's value would be counterproductive for the world economy, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said in a speech to parliament, his first since his return from talks in Washington with President Reagan.

Japan must act to buttress the world economy because the United States can no longer do it on its own, Takeshita said today.

"The world is now at a major time of change," he told parliament.

"The international economic framework so long sustained by the overwhelming economic might of the United States is being transformed," he said.

"There is a need for Japan and Western Europe to join forces with the United States in supporting the international economy."

Role

He warned the Japanese people that the new role could prove painful at times as Japan strives to reduce its huge trade surplus and open up its markets to imports.

"The economic situation remains harsh and the employment outlook grim for some industries and regions," Takeshita said.

Farmers, long supported by government funds, must learn to stand on their own two feet, he said.



Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita addressing the Diet (Parliament) yesterday, said that Japan must act to buttress the world economy because the United States can no longer do it on its own. (Reuters wirephoto)

The United States and other Western nations have charged Japan's agriculture industry with being the most heavily protected in the world.

Takeshita, while declaring that relations with the United States remain the cornerstone of Japan's foreign policy, said he would work for a breakthrough in the country's ties with the Soviet Union.

Tokyo and Moscow have never signed a treaty ending World War Two because of the Soviet occupation of four islands north of Japan.

The prime minister pledged to overhaul Japan's tax system and make it more balanced and equitable.

"The achievement of radical tax reform is one of the most important issues for Japan," he said to cheers from supporters.

The promise may be hard to carry out. His predecessor, Yasuhiro Nakasone, failed in his attempt to overhaul the tax system and was forced to rescind plans to introduce an unpopular sales tax.

But foreign exchange dealers, who often trade on comments on the dollar by political leaders, took little notice and refrained from buying the dollar to bolster its value against the yen.

"The market was almost dead," one dealer said.

The dollar closed in Tokyo at 127.45 yen, only slightly up from 127.20 yen in New York on Friday. It also ended at 1.6706 West German marks, up from 1.6680 marks in New York.

Fluctuation

The US currency's fluctuation was within a narrow 127.40 to 127.90 yen range throughout the day.

Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita also told a gathering of the Central Bank's branch managers the dollar had reached its bottom for the time being and exchange market stability would be retained through international cooperation.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told parliament Japan would continue seeking stable foreign exchange rates through policy coordination with other major nations.

He added that Japan's imbalance in trade of goods and services with other countries was now improving thanks to efforts to promote domestic economic growth.

Other nations have been pushing Japan to strengthen its internal economic growth, which would help reduce its huge trade surplus by stimulating more Japanese buying of foreign goods.

Although Tokyo stock market prices closed higher, trading was also light on worries over the dollar's outlook and the large US trade deficit, brokers said.

The Nikkei stock average rose 193.07 points, or 0.83 per cent, to 23,318.40, with advancing shares outpacing declining issues about three to two.

Turnover

Turnover was a thin 550 million shares.

Financial and domestic-oriented shares rose on announcements by Japan's long term credit banks that they would lower their interest rates to 5.5 per cent from 5.7 per cent from January 28.

"People are again turning to domestic-oriented stocks, but sentiment is that it's a technical buy," said broker Robert Karr of New Japan Securities.

Investors believe those stocks fell so much last year, they cannot fall much more and have to go higher, he added.

Weak dollar will stabilise, says Bundesbank president

BONN, Jan 25, (UPI). Otto Poehl, the president of the West German Bundesbank, made a cautious prediction today that the weak dollar will stabilise. He told foreign reporters he would not advise anyone to bet their fortunes on it, but he believes there are signs the dollar, which has lost almost half its value against the West German mark in the last three years, will stop falling.

"It always is risky to make predictions, and it at times it seems whatever one says is wrong, but certain signs exist that the dollar will stabilise," he said.

He said one reason to believe it will stop falling is that it already has sunk so low — about 1.67 marks now compared to 3.47 marks in February 1985. "More important, I gather that the knowledge is growing in the United States that a further fall in the dollar's value is not in the interest of the United States," Poehl said.

He said the United States is showing this knowledge by its active intervention on currency exchanges to support the dollar and its measures to lower its budget and trade deficits. He said the decline of the dollar already has helped American exports, which in real terms have risen 30 per cent in the last year.

"I am relatively optimistic about the dollar," he said. "I would not advise anyone to bet their fortunes on it, but I am cautiously optimistic."

Libya restricts imports from Italy and France

ROME, Jan 25, (Reuters). Libya has restricted imports from Italy, Britain and France in retaliation for continuing European community action against Tripoli over its alleged links with terrorism, the Libyan Embassy said today.

A Rome Embassy spokesman said Libya imposed the restrictions on January 6, a few days after Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi called for a boycott of Western nations. "Since these countries have decided to continue the embargo against us ... this is our reply," the spokesman said.

He confirmed a report by the Italian news agency Ansa from Tripoli that the Libyan central bank had been ordered to block new letters of credit for imports from the three nations and had told commercial banks to do the same. Ansa said the move had not completely blocked imports from the three countries because it did not affect goods paid for with letters of credit before January 6. Exceptions were also made for materials needed in major national projects. An Italian foreign trade ministry spokeswoman said she was unaware of any Libyan restrictions against Italy.

Eleven EEC states agreed a series of measures against Libya in 1986 in response to its alleged backing of guerrilla violence in Europe. They included a severe cut in the number of Libyan diplomats in Europe and in their activities. The embassy spokesman said Libya had nothing to do with terrorism and felt the measures were discriminatory.

"We cannot, in our view, continue to have ties with nations that see us as terrorists," he said. Ansa said Khaddafi invited Libyans to boycott Italian goods in a speech on January 1 in protest against a lack of news about the alleged disappearance of at least 4,000 Libyans held on the Italian Lampedusa islands during Italian colonial rule.

Algeria to sign exploration pact with Spanish firm

ALGIERS, Jan 25, (Reuters). Algeria has concluded a major oil and gas exploration pact with Spanish company Cepsa in the second sub deal under a new law permitting greater foreign involvement in the sector.

The terms of the contract between the Algerian state oil company Sonatrach and the Spanish firm had been agreed and the accord would be signed soon, officials told Reuters yesterday.

They declined to give details, but said the pact was similar to one signed between Sonatrach and the Italian oil giant Agip in December.

Pact

That pact was the first signed after a new law came into force aimed at attracting outsiders by removing many barriers which restricted the scope offered to non-Algerian companies.

Algeria has increasingly sought foreign expertise to help it tap huge oil reserves and boost export earnings to try to pay foreign debts estimated at between \$16 and 20 billion.

The officials were optimistic other companies would soon sign similar joint pacts under the new law which offers tax breaks and a major stake in any new find.

Hydrocarbons last year accounted for 90 per cent of Algeria's exports and about 45 per cent of government revenues.

Dollar will continue under pressure over the next few months

US interest rates likely to be on rising trend

THE US equity market rallied strongly in December after the October crash and falling a further 10 per cent in November. The broadly-based Standard and Poors Composite Index rose 7.3 per cent. At first the rally was led by the cyclical stocks which had previously been marked down very heavily in the crash.

Transportation stocks did particularly well. By mid-month, the recovery broadened to include financials and utilities as the market was supported by a strong rally in the bond market following a fall in oil prices.

Consumer stocks — particularly those linked to discretionary income — continued to underperform, according to Scimitar, monthly Market Review.

Following the October collapse, several commentators rushed to predict a recession in 1988. However, recent evidence points to growth in the economy. Figures published for November (the first month after the crash) show retail sales holding up (albeit on the basis of heavy discounts), a small rise in capacity utilisation rates, a 0.4 per cent gain in industrial production and a marginal drop — 0.9 per cent — in the unemployment rate.

However, the strength of the economy has as its counterpart a continuing deterioration in the US trade account. October's deficit at \$17.6 billion was the worst ever although Fed chairman Greenspan has referred to it as an "aberration."

Momentum

Whether the economy will maintain its momentum in the New Year is uncertain. A recent Commerce Department survey — conducted after the crash — points to a 7.3 per cent rise in the volume of capital spending in 1988.

On the other hand, some predict a sharp retrenchment on the part of the consumer. The Fed will probably wait to check that the economy is not slowing before adjusting its monetary stance, but October's trade figures and the weakness of the dollar suggest that interest rates are more likely to be on a rising trend in the first half of 1988 than on a declining one.

In these circumstances, the Market Review favours cyclical industrial and high yielding stocks. In their mutual funds, they have scaled back exposure to growth situations in the technology area very considerably and have sold all consumer stocks which are linked to discretionary income.

Two of their favoured markets — the UK and Spain — both recovered strongly in December.

In London, the FT All Share index rose 9.3 per cent supported by significant bid speculation and takeover activity. Prominent here were the purchases of BP of Britoil, by the Kuwait Investment Office of BP itself, the bid for Dee Corp mounted by Barker and Dehson and the bid for Eremans, mounted by Sears.

The Spanish market rose 5 per cent — supported by a negative inflation rate (-0.2 per cent) for November and easing interest rates. By end year, the intervention rate was 13.5 per cent compared with 19 per cent earlier in the year.

In contrast, other European markets were weak, underpinned by the impact of a falling dollar on the key German market.

Following the October crash, UK equities look cheap in view of their expectation that the British economy will grow by 2.5 per cent next year and that earnings growth will be around 10 per cent. Set against this they have only a 10 per cent target for the rest of Europe combined — although this is in line with the weighting in the Morgan Stanley Capital International index.

Many of these markets are viewed as "second line" and will find it hard to make ground in the more bearish investor climate following the crash.

Although Japan was the most resilient market during the crash, it fell back significantly in December despite the rally on Wall Street. Institutional investors were discouraged by the \$17.6 billion US trade deficit for October which fuelled strong upward pressure on the yen.

There is also the suspicion that the authorities are leaning on the institutions not to purchase aggressively in case they are needed to support the market at a later date.

Soviet foreign trade turnover down

Economy fails to reach growth targets

MOSCOW, Jan 25, (UPI). The Soviet economy failed to reach most of its planned growth targets in 1987 with the national income up by only 2.5 per cent compared to a targeted rate of 4.1 per cent, according to year-end statistics published today in the Communist Party daily newspaper Pravda.

Foreign trade turnover was down 2.2 per cent compared with 1986 at 128 billion rubles (\$217.6 billion). A lower volume of trade with capitalist countries including a major cutback on imports from the West accounted for most of the downturn, according to official State Committee for Statistics figures.

Concern

The slow down in foreign trade reflected Soviet concern over unstable oil prices and the fall in the value of the dollar, the currency used to price oil. The Kremlin earns up to 60 per cent of its foreign exchange on oil exports.

The news of the below target growth rates followed a series of newspaper stories in the past week warning that up to 16 million Soviets may lose their jobs in the next few years and plans have been drawn up to relocate workers and generally ease the social burden of unemployment on the state and the individual.

The statistics showed that a total of 2.4 million Soviets lost their jobs in 1987 due to mechanisation and a government-sanctioned drive against low worker productivity. They were absorbed in other spheres of the economy.

The size of the Soviet workforce was listed as 131.3 million people and Pravda said it was the first time "in many years" that the overall rise in industrial output was due solely to better worker productivity and not the hiring of additional labour.

Single out

Exceedingly poor performances were recorded in the engineering and machine building sector, consumer goods industry and quality control in 1987 — three of the main areas singled out by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the start of the year as areas to be given top priority for improvement.

"There was no radical improvement in 1987 in mechanical engineering, light industry or particularly product quality," Pravda said.

"Machine-building failed to fulfill over two-thirds of its targets for modern high efficiency machines," Pravda said.

The production of consumer goods fell 1.1 per cent short of its planned target growth rate of 4.5 per cent. Vodka production also fell by 16 per cent.

Harvest

"Consumer demand for goods and services is not being fully met," Pravda said.

Despite a reasonable good grain harvest for 1987 of 211.3 million tons, marginally up on the 1986 harvest the actual output increase of 0.2 per cent was far below planned growth of 2.2 per cent.

The quality of farm produce was heavily criticised. A total of 26 per cent of the tomato crop delivered to market was below acceptable standards, 29 per cent of grapes and 17 per cent of potatoes, cabbage, onion and cucumbers also fell into the sub-standard category.

Production of potatoes was down by 2.1 million tons to 16.9 million while the vegetable crop was down by 700,000 tons to 20.2 million.

Western diplomats said the statistics probably reflected "a more accurate indicator of true performance" compared to previous year-end statistics which normally hoisted of dramatic but artificial plan over-fulfillments and world pace setting growth rates.

"We have to look more carefully at the statistics but at first glance they appear to show an adequate growth rate for the economy but generally below planned target figures."

Targets

"This could mean that the targets were originally set far too high or another way of looking at it is if you believe that the targets were achievable then the reorganisation in the economy is causing confusion and hurting performance," one diplomat said.

"I don't see this as a crisis situation for Gorbachev. With the exception of the consumer goods industry and machine building it looks like it was an acceptable year overall. Gorbachev himself warned that it might get worse before it gets better," the diplomat said.

World Business Summary

Moscow signs oil deal with South Yemen

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Jan 25, (AP). South Yemen and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement to develop the Red Sea country's oilfields, the Middle East Economic Survey reported today. The weekly oil industry Newsletter, published in Cyprus, said the contract was signed by the Yemeni ministry of energy and mines and the Soviet state firm Technoexport on Jan 12. The agreement covers South Yemen's Iyad West and Amal oilfields and includes construction of a 160-mile (260-kilometre) oil export pipeline from the northwestern Shawba region, where oil reserves are estimated at 3.8 billion barrels, to a terminal at Bir Ali on the Gulf of Aden. The financial side of the deal was not mentioned. The Soviet Union is a strong supporter of Marxist South Yemen. The weekly said a second engineering contract for Iyad West was expected to follow soon. A comprehensive agreement for the development of the fields will be signed later this month when Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy and Minerals, Salih Abu Bakr Bin Hussein, visits Moscow, the Survey added.

South Yemen, long impoverished, will become a major oil exporter in about 18 months. Oil trucked from the fields is already being processed at the country's only refinery near Aden, the capital.

Weak dollar will stabilise, says Bundesbank president

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He confirmed a report by the Italian news agency Ansa from Tripoli that the Libyan central bank had been ordered to block new letters of credit for imports from the three nations and had told commercial banks to do the same. Ansa said the move had not completely blocked imports from the three countries because it did not affect goods paid for with letters of credit before January 6. Exceptions were also made for materials needed in major national projects. An Italian foreign trade ministry spokeswoman said she was unaware of any Libyan restrictions against Italy.

Eleven EEC states agreed a series of measures against Libya in 1986 in response to its alleged backing of guerrilla violence in Europe. They included a severe cut in the number of Libyan diplomats in Europe and in their activities. The embassy spokesman said Libya had nothing to do with terrorism and felt the measures were discriminatory.

"We cannot, in our view, continue to have ties with nations that see us as terrorists," he said. Ansa said Khaddafi invited Libyans to boycott Italian goods in a speech on January 1 in protest against a lack of news about the alleged disappearance of at least 4,000 Libyans held on the Italian Lampedusa islands during Italian colonial rule.

Algeria to sign exploration pact with Spanish firm

ALGIERS, Jan 25, (Reuters). Algeria has concluded a major oil and gas exploration pact with Spanish company Cepsa in the second sub deal under a new law permitting greater foreign involvement in the sector.

The terms of the contract between the Algerian state oil company Sonatrach and the Spanish firm had been agreed and the accord would be signed soon, officials told Reuters yesterday.

They declined to give details, but said the pact was similar to one signed between Sonatrach and the Italian oil giant Agip in December.

Pact

That pact was the first signed after a new law came into force aimed at attracting outsiders by removing many barriers which restricted the scope offered to non-Algerian companies.

Algeria has increasingly sought foreign expertise to help it tap huge oil reserves and boost export earnings to try to pay foreign debts estimated at between \$16 and 20 billion.

The officials were optimistic other companies would soon sign similar joint pacts under the new law which offers tax breaks and a major stake in any new find.

Hydrocarbons last year accounted for 90 per cent of Algeria's exports and about 45 per cent of government revenues.



We would like to advise all our SHARQ BRANCH CUSTOMERS that effective from 30/01/88 we will merge SHARQ BRANCH operations with our HEAD OFFICE BRANCH. All Accounts held in the Sharq Branch are being transferred to our Head Office Branch, located at Ahmed Al Jaber Street.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our deepest thanks to our Sharq Branch clients for their confidence and patronage, and assure them that we shall continue to provide them with our full range of banking services from our Head Office Branch.



Head Office Branch : Ahmed Al Jaber Street, Sharq
P.O. Box : 5389 Safat : 13054, Safat - Kuwait.
Telephone No. : 2439000 (20 lines)

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)		LONDON (Beta Stocks)	
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World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1414.0	1421.0	1404.0	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	982.9	982.9	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	905.54	894.15	870.22
FT GOV SEC	0	88.69	88.59	88.49
FT GDS NM	0	279.9	279.9	302.1
FT MINES F	0	432.89	432.82	450.65
FT OIL	0	1757.5	1722.1	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	114.13	113.37	113.51	115.04
FT MLD SYG	94.93	95.56	95.88	90.79
FT MLD LOC	101.39	100.38	100.72	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS DRIFT TO LOWS IN VERY QUIET TRADING. LONDON, JAN 25 - SHARES WERE DRIFTING AT THEIR LOWS IN WHAT DEALERS DESCRIBED AS "SERIOUSLY LOW" LEVELS OF TRADING. AN EARLY ADVANCE ON WALL STREET GAVE INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS LITTLE INCENTIVE TO ENTER THE MARKET, DEALERS SAID.

BY 1532 GMT THE FTSE 100 INDEX WAS DOWN 13.6 TO ITS LOW OF 1,414.3. VOLUME RECORDED BY THE STOCK EXCHANGE AUTOMATED QUOTATION SYSTEM (SEAO) WAS 205.2 MLN SHARES AT 1500 GMT.

"THE REALLY BIG PLAYS DON'T SEEM CONVINCED THIS MARKET'S GOING TO RISE ENOUGH IN THE SHORT TERM," ONE DEALER SAID. OTHERS SUGGESTED SOME INSTITUTIONAL CASH FLOW ITS WAY INTO GOVERNMENT BONDS, WHICH TODAY HAVE RISEN BY MORE THAN HALF A POINT.

TURNOVER BY THIS AFTERNOON IS ROUGHLY HALF THE AVERAGE OF AROUND 410 MLN SHARE VOLUME SEEN LAST WEEK. "THERE'S NO WAY VOLUME IS GOING TO DOUBLE BETWEEN NOW (1500 GMT) AND WHEN THE SEAO MANDATORY QUOTE PERIOD (MOP) ENDS," ONE DEALER SAID.

SHARE VOLUME REPORTED VIA SEAO IS MEASURED BETWEEN THE 0900 GMT TO 1700 GMT WHEN MARKET MAKERS ARE OBLIGED TO DEAL AT PRICES SHOWN ON THEIR SEAO SCREENS. BARGAINS STRUCK OUTSIDE THE MOP ARE ENTERED ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

DEALERS SAID THE OLD FEARS ABOUT A POSSIBLE U.S. RECESSION IN THE FACE OF THE COUNTRY'S BUDGET AND TRADE DEFICIT PROBLEMS WERE MAKING THE INSTITUTIONS NERVOUS ABOUT SHARES.

London Gold

LONDON, JAN 25 - GOLD BULLION SLID TO ITS LOWEST CLOSING LEVEL FOR TWO MONTHS IN A WEAK MARKET, DEALERS SAID.

BUT IT CLOSED TWO DRS ABOVE THE DAY'S LOWS AT 471.50/472.00 DLS AN OUNCE, THE LOWEST SINCE NOVEMBER 23 LAST YEAR, REFLECTING FALLING NEW YORK FUTURES.

THIS COMPARED WITH OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 476.65/477.15 AND 476.50/477.00 DLS RESPECTIVELY.

DEALERS SAID MOST OF THE DECLINE ON THE LONDON MARKET HAD TAKEN PLACE IN THE LATE STAGES OF THE DAY, WHEN IT APPEARED THAT NEW YORK OPERATORS WERE UNWILLING TO MAINTAIN OPENING LEVELS.

London Money Market

LONDON, JAN 25 - MONEY RATES WERE LOWER WHERE CHANGED, CONTINUING LAST WEEK'S SOFTER TREND, AFTER U.K. DATA LAST WEEK REMOVED FEARS OF AN IMMINENT RISE IN BASE RATES, DEALERS SAID.

FIGURES ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, RETAIL SALES AND CONSUMER PRICES HAVE TEMPORARILY REMOVED WORRIES ABOUT INFLATIONARY PRESSURES IN THE ECONOMY AND THE MARKET HAS ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS TO LEVELS COMPATIBLE WITH THE CURRENT BASE RATE OF 8-1/2 PCT.

THE ONLY POTENTIAL STUMBLING BLOCK THIS WEEK IS THURSDAY'S U.K. TRADE DATA. BUT MOST ANALYSTS ARE FORECASTING A MODEST IMPROVEMENT ON NOVEMBER'S CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT OF \$95 MLN STG AND THE MARKET FEELS RELAXED ABOUT THE OUTCOME, DEALERS SAID.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.7755/65	1.6725/30	5.6390/20	NOON
STG	1.6705/6785	2.9730/65	10.0195/0325	NOON
DMK	1.6705/6785	2.968/982	29.605/725	FIX
FFR	5.6380/65200	336.8/337.4	24.03/06	1300
SFR	1.3565/3575	112.345	33.325	FIX
HFL	1.8805	2.06603	6.96436	CLX
ECU	1.23493	0.767466	2.28803	7.71355
SDR	1.37008	225.7/227.02		NOON
YEN	127.65/75	22/01/1988		
SDR RATES				

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Advertising in the Financial Pages?
For further details contact,
Arab Times Advertising Department 4816326/7.

NEW YORK		NEW YORK	
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GEN HILLS	48/5	48/3	NEW ENG EL	23/5	23/6	SERV CORP	23/7	23/7
GENL MOTR	61/6	61/4	NEW PLA RE	13/6	13/6	SF STH PAC	45/1	44/5
GEN SIGNAL	41/3	41/0	NEWELL CO	28/7	29/0	SHELL TRAN	73/0	73/5
GENCORP	21/0	21/0	NEWMONT MI	34/7	34/7	SHERN PLOW	52/2	51/2
GENRAD INC	6/4	6/3	NEWNMT GLD	35/4	36/2	SHERN-WILL	25/7	25/5
GED INTL	0	0	NICOR INC	24/1	24/1	SINGER CO	48/7	48/7
GEORGI-PAC	33/2	32/7	NI INDS	6/3	6/3	SMITH INT	6/3	6/2
GERBER SCIE	14/0	14/0	NOBLE AFF	13/2	13/4	SMITH REC	56/5	55/3
GILLET	34/4	34/2	NORD RESOU	8/0	8/0	SONY CP	36/7	36/7
GLOBAL MAR	1/5	1/4	NORTHROP	29/6	29/1	SOURCE CAP	34/0	34/0
GOLDEN HUG	9/5	9/6	HORTON	42/0	42/2	SOUTHERN	24/0	24/0
GOODRICH	40/3	40/2	NOVO INC	24/0	24/0	SPERRY CP	13/6	14/0
GOODYEAR	57/4	57/3	NUCOR CORP	39/3	39/1	SQUIRE D	48/4	48/4
GOULD INC	11/3	11/3	OAK INDS	1/1	1/1	SQUABE	61/6	59/7
GRACE MR	25/3	24/7	OCCIDENTAL	25/1	25/1	STALEY AE		
GRAINGER	50/2	49/6	ODEN DRIL	15/7	15/7	STERL DRUG	87/6	78/5
GREYHOUND	27/1	27/0	OGDEN CORP	26/2	25/7	SUN CO INC	49/5	49/5
GRIER	9/7	9/7	OH ED CO	20/4	20/0	SUNSTRAID	43/6	44/0
GRUMMAN	18/3	18/3	OHIO HATT	14/0	14/0	SUNSHINE M	4/0	4/0
GULF RES-C	12/0	11/7	OLIN CORP	40/5	40/7	SUPER VAL	17/2	17/3
GULF-WESTN	70/4	70/2	OMNICARE	6/2	6/3	SW AIRLINE	13/6	13/6
HALLIBURTO	25/7	25/5	ORION PICT	14/7	14/2	SW GAS	21/0	20/7
HALLWOOD	14/7	14/7	PAINE WEB	15/7	16/0	SW BELL	36/2	36/4
HANNA MIN	19/7	19/5	PAM AM U A	3/0	3/0	TANDY CORP	34/0	34/0
HARRIS CP	25/6	24/7	PAMHANDLE	23/7	23/7	TDC EMERG	22/7	22/5
HARTMARX	22/7	22/7	PARK ELEC	14/4	14/5	TEKRONIX	22/6	22/6
HECLA MIN	13/2	13/1	PARKER DIR	2/7	2/7	TELETYPE	30/10	300/0
HEILEMAN BR	40/2	40/2	PARKER MAN	33/7	33/5	TELEX CORP	42/6	42/5
HEINZ HJ	40/0	40/0	PATROCK PET	3/5	3/5	TERADYNE	15/3	15/3
HEL CURTIS	24/4	24/2	PATYSS CSH	11/5	11/4	TESORO PET	12/2	12/3
HELM-PATNE	19/6	19/5	PULLMAN CO	5/7	5/7	TEX AMER B	3/5	3/4
HERSCULES	47/4	47/2	PC INDS-96	0	0	TEX EAS TR	28/0	27/2
NESTOR	0	0	PENN CENTR	40/1	40/1	TEXACO INC	37/2	37/7
NEWM-PACK	53/2	53/6	PENNY INC	38/6	38/0	TEXAS IND	30/5	30/4
NEWELL CO	36/3	36/3	PENNZOIL	68/1	68/2	TEXAS INST	43/4	43/2
HILLENBRND	25/2	25/3	PEOPLES EN	17/6	18/0	TEXTRON	23/2	23/3
HILTN WTLs	75/6	75/6	PEPSICO	32/0	32/4	TIDELATER	5/0	5/0
HITACHI	96/2	96/4	PERKIN-ELM	22/2	22/2	TIGER INT	11/5	11/2
HOMESTEAK	16/0	16/2	PFIZER	52/3	51/5	YIME INCOR	83/4	83/0
INDT-HARWIN	15/4	15/3	PHILIPS DOD	37/7	37/7	TIMES MGR	34/7	35/0
HOLIDAY C	23/6	23/4	PHILIP MOR	83/2	83/2	TJCKEN	54/6	53/0
HOME DEPOT	18/3	18/2	PHILIPS NR	12/6	13/1	TORCHMARK	27/6	27/6
HOME FED S	23/0	23/0	PILLSBURY	34/2	34/3	TOSCO CORP	2/2	2/2
HONDA MOTR	106/2	105/0	PINNACLE U	29/6	29/2	TOYS R US	31/6	31/3
HONEYMELL	56/1	55/6	PITN-BOUES	35/2	35/2	TRANSAMER	31/7	31/5
BOUGHTN MI	27/0	27/0	PIITSON	10/4	10/3	TRANSCO EN	24/1	24/2
HOUSTON IN	31/6	31/6	PNC FINANC	41/7	42/1	TRANSCO EX	6/3	6/4
HUGHES SUP	25/0	25/0	POLAROID	23/4	23/1	TRAVELLERS	36/1	36/2
HUMANA INC	20/6	20/4	PRIME COMP	14/7	14/7	TRINITY IN	26/0	26/0
HUTTON EFF	29/3	29/3	PRIME INNS	34/6	34/6	TV CORP	14/0	14/0
IBW	110/6	110/3	PRIMERICA	26/2	26/0	TWA	19/7	19/6
ICI INDUST	31/0	31/0	PROCTER GH	83/6	83/2	U PACIFIC	52/4	52/3
ICM PHARMA	7/7	7/4	PUEBLO INT	24/5	24/5	UNIT BRAND	43/4	43/1
ILL PUR CO	25/4	24/4	PUERTO SP-L	19/2	19/1	UNILEVER	36/4	36/5
INCO LTD	20/0	20/1	PUIGET HOME	81/1	81/2	UNION TECH	57/3	57/4
INGRSLL-RH	33/0	33/0	QUAKE CORP	41/6	40/6	UNION CAMP	32/7	32/7
INTL MINER	48/0	47/6	QUAKER COR	16/6	16/6	UNION CARB	20/2	20/2
JOHNSN-JNS	79/7	79/7	QUANTUM CR	66/7	66/3	US SHOE	15/1	14/6
K HART CP	31/1	30/7	RAIS PURIN	67/6	67/4	USX CORP	30/7	30/7
KATSER ALM	10/6	10/6	RANADA INH	6/1	6/1	US WEST	51/4	50/7
KELLOGG	51/5	51/3	RAMOR OIL	4/6	4/6	USAIR GRP	30/0	29/7
KERR-NGCEE	35/6	35/5	RAYCHEM	43/0	42/3	VALERO EN	5/0	5/0
KEYSTONE	13/0	13/0	RAYMARK	6/5	6/6	VALERO IN	2/1	2/1
KIDDE INC	0	0	RAYTHEON	65/5	65/6	VARCO INTL	4/0	3/7
KIMB-CLARK	50/0	50/1	REGAL INTL	12	11	VARTAN AS	25/4	25/4
KLM R D AI	15/7	16/0	REYNOLD ME	40/2	40/1	VINT	2/6	2/5
KRAFT INC	52/1	52/2	RIJ MABISC	45/2	44/3	V M PNT PEPP	25/4	25/4
KROGER CP	27/0	26/3	ROCKES G-E	16/3	16/2	WAINOC OIL	5/2	5/2
LEAR PETRL	1/5	1/4	ROCKAWAY C	7/4	7/3	WAL MART	26/4	26/0
LEIMAH	11/6	11/6	ROCKWELL	16/3	16/3	WALGREEN CO	28/5	28/7
LENNAR	17/4	17/3	ROHR INDS	19/0	18/7	WARTON CORP	28/7	28/4
LILLY ELI	77/6	76/4	ROLLINS EN	19/2	19/1	WARNER LAM	76/0	74/6
LINCOLN AI	43/7	43/7	ROLLINS IN	15/3	15/2	WASTE MAN	35/0	34/6
LITTON INC	69/3	68/7	ROPER CORP	14/7	15/1	WASH GAS L	23/0	22/6
LOCKHEED	36/4	36/3	ROPER GRP	50/0	47/6	WENDY INTL	5/6	5/6
LOCTIVE CP	29/0	28/6	ROMAN COMP	5/4	5/5	WEST CO	16/7	16/7
LOEWS CORP	65/0	64/6	ROYL DUTCH	109/3	109/6	WESTINGHSE	48/5	48/3
LOW-METTLER	18/4	18/4	RYDER SYST	25/4	25/6	WILLIAMS C	24/1	24/0
LOWE STAR	25/3	25/2	RYLAND GRP	14/7	14/7	WILLIAMS E	4/3	4/3
LOWES	17/6	17/4	S DIEG G-E	32/2	32/0	WINNEBAGO	8/0	8/1
MGT ASS	2/6	2/5	SABINE	13/5	13/4	WIM-DIXIE	40/7	39/6
M HAWK NETTA	43/5	43/4	SALMON	257/4	21/0	WORTHINGTON	37/0	36/3
MA COW INC	9/7	10/0	SARA LEE	31/3	31/7	WORLDWIDE	0	0
NACHILLAN	50/7	50/7	SCHLUMBERG	29/2	29/3	WRIGHTLEY	73/2	73/2
NAHANTAN	10/2	10/3	SCOTT PPR	65/7	65/3	WYLE LABS	10/2	10/2
NAMOR CARE	12/0	11/7	SCOTTYS	12/4	12/5	XEROX CP	55/0	55/0
NAHU NAMOV	19/7	19/7	SE BANK CO	19/7	19/3	XTRA INC	25/5	25/6
NARIOTT	29/5	29/6	SEAGUL EN	52/5	52/4	YATTA	2/5	2/5
NASCO CORP	23/4	23/6	SEAGUL EN	16/6	16/6	ZENITH CORP	15/3	15/4
NATSU ELEC	174/0	174/0	SEALED AIR	39/0	38/4	ZERO	14/5	14/5
MATTEL INC	7/1	7/1	SEARS ROE	33/6	33/4			
NCA INCORP	40/4	40/4						
MC DONALDS	43/7	43/7						
MCDONNELL	60/2	60/4						
MCGRAW-HIL	49/0	49/0						
MEAD	32/2	31/6						
MERCK - CO	151/2	150/2						
MERIDITT	28/2	28/2						
MERRILL LY	22/6	22/5						
MESA OFFSH	1/2	1/2						
MOBIL OIL	41/6	41/4						
MOHAK DAT	0	0						
MONSANTO	76/3	76/0						
MORGAN JP	33/4	33/2						
MORT THIO	39/7	39/6						
MOTOROLA	42/0	42/0						
MRSH-NCLEM	50/0	50/6						
MURPHY OIL	24/7	24/4						
NAT INTERG	16/5	16/5						
NBI CORP	3/7	3/7						

Dow Jones Plus Indices			
IND	LAST	CHANGE	LOW
IND	1,927.22	+ 23.71	1,927.22
TRANS	748.29	+ 5.43	748.71
UTILS	182.91	+ 0.66	182.91
STOCKS	716.33	+ 6.89	716.33
HTSE COMP	140.34	+ 1.65	
S-P COMPOSITE	249.79	+ 3.29	
NYSE INDS	167.24	+ 2.13	
AMEX INDEX	265.92	+ 0.30	
NASD COMP	339.05	+ 1.46	
NASD BANKING	416.10	+ 1.27	
NASD FIN'L	427.24	+ 1.42	
NASD INDS	340.37	+ 1.48	
S-P 100 INDEX	239.90	+ 2.87	

Pope, Third World leaders mark agency anniversary

Jazairy extols Opec contribution to Ifad

ROME, Jan 25, (Opecna), Dr Idriss Jazairy, president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad), said yesterday Opec could be rightly proud of its contribution to the fund since Ifad's inception.

In an exclusive interview, he described Opec countries' role in helping to launch Ifad in 1977 as "magnificent."

"There is admiration for Opec's performance even by those who don't always see eye to eye with the organisation on certain questions," Jazairy added.

He said despite the difficulties through which Opec countries had been passing for some years, total Opec commitment to the fund since 1978 stood at nearly \$1 billion.

Projects

Jazairy said that Ifad had co-financed ten projects with the Opec fund, contributing \$90 million to the fund's \$4 million. Eleven projects had been co-financed with aid institutions in Opec countries, the contribution of the latter being \$313 million. This, he added, was over and above the funds contributed by the Opec states to Ifad through the Opec fund.

He said Ifad had financed

seven projects in three Opec countries — Indonesia, Nigeria and Algeria — with \$133 million. Another 270 million had been mobilised through external sources. Four new projects worth \$30 to \$35 million to be set up in Opec countries were now in the pipeline.

The president spoke in glowing terms about the agency's special \$300 million programme for Africa, saying that it was a reassuring assertion of both multilateralism and world concern for Africa at a time when the international financial and political environment was difficult. It was perhaps also a tribute to Ifad and its achievements.

He described his agency as a symbol of North-South cooperation.

Confident

He said Ifad was entering its second decade confident of the continuing success of its mission to help the Third World's rural poor along the road to self-reliance.

Jazairy spoke of a new coalition to enable Ifad to finance its programmes, which, he said, would comprise not only the agency's traditional donors —

Opec and OECD countries — but key Third World states which appeared to be willing to make more substantial contributions than in the past.

"We all have a common stake in keeping Ifad afloat and sharing the responsibility. We have to join hands and work together," Jazairy stated.

Key

Referring to the "new coalition," Jazairy said the key to its achievement lay in the readiness of the industrialised states not only to match contributions from Opec countries by a more than even ratio, but their de facto willingness to do so by a higher ratio in the case of other developing countries.

Jazairy said consultations for the third replenishment of the fund would be launched in a few days and due recognition would be accorded to the fact that certain key developing countries, such as India, China, Korea, Brazil, Mexico etc., were aware of the benefits they would enjoy directly by increasing their contributions to Ifad.

They know from experience that what they give to Ifad comes back to them in the form of increasing aid flows, he added.

Asked how he would like the world to see Ifad which he has headed since 1984, Jazairy replied, "I would like Ifad to be known as an agency which is determined to generate its own funds and gradually create its own cash flows. We also want financial responsibility to be spread out. This is essential because the stakes are common."

Meanwhile, Pope John Paul and Third World leaders will mark this week 10 years of work by a widely-praised agency whose help for the rural poor has earned it the nickname "the Peasants' Banker."

Ifad began operations in 1978 and was the first international loan institution set up exclusively to help the world's neediest help themselves through small, grass-roots projects.

Bankruptcy

The Pope and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt are due to address the opening session of the 142-member agency's governing council in Rome tomorrow.

President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) chairman will speak on Wednesday.

Ifad was threatened with bankruptcy in 1985 by a row between Western and Opec oil producer donors which led to a reduced budget. But it has won plaudits from many countries which criticise other UN agencies as bloated bureaucracies.

"We're not pouring money down a rat-hole, we're putting money where it causes growth. It's water, it's fertiliser," Millicent Fenwick, a former UN delegate to the Rome-based UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), has said.

Ifad officials said only five per cent of funds were spent on administration, the lowest in the UN and that the agency existed on only \$4 professional staff.

They said the budget, slashed to \$460 million in 1985-87 from \$1.1 billion in the previous period, would have to be increased to at least \$500 million for the next three years.

Western nations at present contribute 60 per cent.

Ifad channels help directly to the poorest of the poor through grants and loans, most on highly concessional terms, which are supplemented by funds from co-financiers and the governments of beneficiary countries.

Pertamina to sign 10 new deals with contractors

JAKARTA, Jan 25, (Opecna): Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, hopes to sign ten new production-sharing deals with foreign contractors this year, it was announced here at the weekend.

Pertamina spokesman Kusnadi Amin Endin said that if all ten contracts were signed the number of deals this year will be an increase over that in 1986, when only three were concluded, and that of 1987, when seven agreements were reached.

Contracts

He said that to date, Pertamina has signed 67 contracts with 44 foreign firms for oil and gas exploration and development programmes throughout the country.

Among the contractors Caltex Pacific Indonesia signed the highest number of agreements with five deals followed by Mobil Oil Indonesia with four.

He said that of the 44 contractors 21 were already producing oil or in the final stage before production while the remaining were still in the exploratory phase of their programmes.

According to the latest data Indonesia's hydrocarbon resources were spread over 60 basins, Endin said.

Price collapse ruled out

MUSCAT, Jan 25, (Opecna): Omani Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Saeed Bin Ahmed Al Shanfari has ruled out any possible price collapse similar to that of 1986, since Opec and non-Opec oil exporters would work together to ensure stability in the world oil market.

In an article published here today by a local newspaper, the minister reiterated his country's preparedness to cut its oil production, in coordination with other non-Opec exporters in support of Opec's efforts to defend oil prices.

Referring to the constant coordination underway between Oman and other non-Opec countries to further support for Opec, Al Shanfari said Oman has been conducting consultations with Egypt, Norway and Mexico for offering solid consolidation to Opec.

Oman has cut its production by 85,000 bpd or from 650,000 b/d to 565,000 b/d in a bid to stabilise oil prices.

Norway, a North Sea oil producer, cut its production by 7.5 per cent early last year in support of the Opec price and production strategy.

Plan to set up stock exchange

BEIJING, Jan 25, (Reuters): A National Chinese Stock Exchange is likely to be set up in Shanghai where several securities companies are being established, one of the city's top bankers said.

The China Daily today quoted Luo Shilin, vice president of the Shanghai branch of the People's Bank of China, as saying the city had the experience to handle a national exchange as it used to be one of the world's major financial centres.

China has securities markets in at least six cities, including Shanghai. The east China city was a thriving commercial centre which attracted European and American businessmen in large numbers until the communist takeover in 1949.

Local banks to increase credit facilities

Recovery hopes soar, says Kuwaiti banker

THE board chairman of the Gulf Bank, Mustafa Sultan Al Issa said yesterday that Kuwait's economy has managed to pass "the stage of adaptation" necessitated by the previous years of recession and is preparing for a recovery, despite the sharp fluctuations in international markets and the instability caused by the crash in the world stock markets last October.

Sluggish

In an interview with Kuwait news agency (Kuna), Issa said the stability of oil prices at the level of \$18 a barrel and the state's financial policy in support of the economic activity in the country as well as the flexible financial policy of the Central Bank of Kuwait are factors that would contribute to realising reactivation of the economic sector.

On projections for 1988, Issa

said given the present economic indicators, particularly after the developments that took place in international stock markets late last year, the international economy is expected to witness a sluggish growth in the main industrial countries, compared with the rates attained last year.

He also expected that domestic demand will continue to rise in Japan and West Germany and that Britain will maintain a higher growth rate than those expected in other industrial countries.

The top banking executive also predicted an improvement in the US trade deficit, that will in turn ease the pressure on the dollar and curb its downward trend.

Speaking about the internal economic situation, Issa pointed out that the country is witnessing the final steps for resolving the problem of difficult debts, result-

ing from the crash in the "Al Maqab" stock exchange in 1982.

He also referred to the treasury bills issued late last year and said bonds stand as new instruments of investment to the local market.

Active

He said the treasury bills are expected to create an active financial market and good investment opportunities.

The executive indicated that Kuwait Stock Exchange is witnessing more measures to organise that market in a way to create and expand domestic options for absorbing available cash liquidity.

The financial policy of maintaining low interest rates goes in line with the state economic policy aimed at encouraging the economic and productive sectors, Issa said.

He predicted that the local

banks would increase their credit facilities for investment purposes.

On the international activities of the Gulf Bank, Issa said in general they have not been affected by the fluctuations in the foreign exchange and stock market prices, but rather the situation has created investment chances.

Policy

He pointed out that the bank is pursuing a cautious investment policy and is selective as far as foreign investments are concerned.

He added that the economic situation in Kuwait is governed by local, regional and international considerations and the government's efforts to improve the economic situation will not be fully effective unless positive developments took place at the regional and international levels.

Initiative

Addressing central bank governors from South-East Asia in Singapore last week, Camdessus said the IMF had embarked on a new initiative to help debt-ridden developing countries.

Camdessus said he was asking the IMF executive board to give countries experiencing balance of payments difficulties more time to adjust.

Bankers and international economists give Indonesia high marks for moving quickly to adjust its economy after the crash in world oil prices in 1986. It devalued its currency by 31 per cent in September 1986, and has taken a series of measures to cut protectionism, boost non-oil exports and make its domestic industry more efficient while keeping a tight grip on spending.

Bankers say support from major international leading agencies such as the IMF, the World Bank and Japanese institutions, is helping South-East Asia's largest nation effectively to restructure part of its debt.

The IMF granted Indonesia \$600 million in balance of payments support in May last year, and the World Bank and Japan's state Export-Import Bank together provided a further \$1.2 billion last year.

The bankers said Indonesia, a country of 172 million people

which is a leading oil and natural commodity producer, is still regarded as a relatively good credit risk and is expected to ask the IMF for further help.

Camdessus went straight into meetings with Finance Minister Rudianto Prawito and other senior economic ministers after being greeted at Jakarta airport by Central Bank governor Arifin Siregar.

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Dollar firm and gold sinks

LONDON, Jan 25, (Agencies): The US dollar firmed today in Europe and the price of gold retreated.

A London dealer said much of the dollar's support was technical as dealers squared positions ahead of the next set of economic indicators from the United States, specifically the announcement on Wednesday of the 4th quarter GNP.

The US unit closed in Frankfurt at 1.6745 marks against 1.6735 and in Zurich at 1.3595 Swiss francs against 1.3557. In London the pound fell more than a cent, finishing at \$1.7715 against 1.7825.

The greenback ended trading in Paris at 5.6450 francs against 5.63, in Amsterdam at 1.8840 guilders against 1.8805 and in Milan at 1,230.45 lire against 1,227.80. Against the Japanese yen, it was 127.62, compared with a 127.45 close in Tokyo and a pre-weekend London close of 127.45.

Values

Only in Brussels did the dollar weaken. There the US unit closed at 35.0550 Belgian francs against 35.08.

Gold closed in Zurich at \$475.25 per ounce against 476.50 and in London at 471.75 against 476.50. Silver closed in Zurich at

\$6.72 per ounce against 6.70 and in London at 6.68 against 6.71.

The world's financial market started the last week of January nervously today with values little changed and investors focusing on imbalances within the international economy.

"There are no rumours, no statements, no statistics. The market is really quiet," said one Frankfurt currency dealer.

Key stock markets lacked direction and investors were cautious. Prices started firmer in Paris, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Madrid, Zurich and Stockholm, but were down in London and Milan. After Tokyo, the world's biggest stock market, had closed up for the third consecutive session.

London dealers polled by Reuters saw ranges of 126 to 129 yen and 1.6550 to 1.6850 marks for the next week or two.

Asian trading failed to provide any stimulus for Europe, with a 0.2 point cut in the Japanese long-term prime interest rate to 5.5 per cent well discounted in advance, dealers said.

European dealers seemed to pay little attention to a pledge by Bank of Japan governor Satoshi Sumita to keep credit policy easy or to a warning from Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita that a fur-

ther dollar fall would be counter-productive for the world economy.

"Nothing seems able to move the dollar," said one dealer.

When Wednesday's preliminary estimate of fourth quarter US real Gross National Product growth are issued, many economists expect them to show a slowing down to about 3.5 per cent from 4.3 in the third quarter of 1987.

Interest

But for most currency dealers, the number will be of only passing interest. "They are old figures. We want to see how the economy is doing now and in the future," said one trader.

On share markets, London's blue-chip Financial Times Stock Exchange index of 100 key shares was 11.5 points down at 1130 GMT at 1,759.4 points.

The Nikkei stock average rose 193.07 points, or 0.83 per cent to 23,318.40, with advancing shares outpacing declining issues about three to two.

In Hong Kong, share prices closed lower after a day of single trading that featured light selling pressure from US institutions, brokers said. The Hang Seng index lost 15.09 points to 2,407.29 after an early surge of 18 points.

Pandalai says goodbye

STC official maps new market strategy

ARVIND Pandalai, the branch manager of the State Trading Corporation of India (a govt of India enterprise) in Kuwait will be leaving for India shortly after completing his tenure in Kuwait. A noted market analyst and an investment expert Pandalai will take over his assignment as Chief Marketing Manager of STC in Tamil Nadu.

Pandalai took over the Kuwait branch of STC in September 1983 when the business outlook for exports from India was gloomy and international competition was stiff.

His careful market study coupled with appropriate shifting of strategy resulted in the company turnover increasing from a level of \$3 million to the current figure of 90 million, during his tenure.

The Kuwait branch of STC covers the markets of Kuwait, UAE, Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, North and South Yemen etc.

Activities

The emphasis in activities has changed rapidly with the changing market requirements during this time. Many new items have been introduced to these markets and many firms scored. Some of these are: Contract for supply of high quality Basmati rice valued over \$33 million to the government purchasing organisations of Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain.

But drugs and pharmaceuticals in Egypt and Syria.

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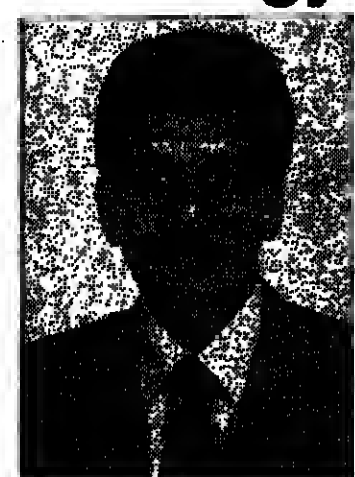
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Arvind Pandalai

Silver jewellery studded with precious and semi-precious stones in Kuwait and Jordan. Textile and yarn to Jordan.

Packed ready to eat food items, cashewes etc.

During this period STC took part in various trade fairs and exhibitions in the area to suitably expose products handled by the company.

Continuous scanning of the market, effort to foster long-term business relations as a tactic from mere one time transactions, have enabled him to be on top of the situation.

He is also a founder member of the NRI Investors' Forum in Kuwait. A management specialist, Pandalai has been with the STC for eleven years.

EEC ministers open farm policy talks

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Jan 25, (AP): Agriculture ministers of the European Economic Community opened a new round of farm policy negotiations today, still divided over measures to curb the Community's rising farm spending.

The 12 ministers met throughout the day yesterday without reaching agreement, said Rainer Schlager, a spokesman for the West German delegation, which was acting as chairman of the meeting.

He said that while the member countries remained divided on key issues, the West German Farm Minister, Ignaz Kiechle, was hoping to clarify and narrow the differences by the scheduled end of the talks today.

Results

Kiechle plans to present the results of the discussions to a meeting Monday of EEC foreign ministers. The foreign ministers

are scheduled to spend two days debating a package of financial reform measures, including the farm policy proposals, that will be the centerpiece of a special EEC heads of government meeting in Brussels next month.

An EEC summit meeting last December broke down without agreement on the financial reforms, which include a change in the way the Community raises its funds as well as an increase in aid to the EEC's poorer regions.

As a result of the deadlock, the EEC has no budget for 1988 and is operating on an emergency system of month-by-month contributions based on the 1987 budget.

Measures to strictly limit farm spending, which takes up about two-thirds of the EEC's annual budget, are considered the key to overhauling the Community's finances and ending its perennial

cash crises.

Farm spending last year was 27 billion European currency units (32 billion), and expenditures are expected to grow further in 1988.

Among the proposals put forth by Kiechle on Saturday was that the EEC should stop buying farmers surplus grain at guaranteed prices once the year's production reaches 160 million metric tons. Britain, the Netherlands and Belgium objected, saying the figure was too high.

At the December summit, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said she could not accept a grain production ceiling higher than 155 million metric tons.

The 12 EEC nations also remained divided over how to implement a proposal under which farmers would be paid to take land out of production.

Frankfurt: Prices ended a thin bourse easier as investors and professional operators remained sidelined in the absence of significant fresh factors. The Dax-Index fell 4.6 to 1,241.

Zurich: Prices closed steady on a stable dollar and a positive trend on Wall Street. At 1330 GMT the all-share Swiss index was up two points at 764.5.

Paris: Prices turned lower in late-morning trading and started the main floor session with losses in the majority in a lacklustre market.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 25.1.88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Pashidah	Al Qutub	4747815
4	Focani	Al Sawan	4746018
6	Zarka	Al Qutub	4747815
8	Sham	ISA	2441860

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
25/1	Norasia Arabia	Emad Bahar	4841807
26/1	Kara Koram	Trans Conl.	2436920
26/1	Wave Crest	Algh Barber	4843988
25/1	Tila		

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Golden Bear	Bahar	2459891
6	Andria	Algh Barber	4843988
12	Sea Coral	Roger	2423642

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
25/1	Progress Carrier	Sager Shaheen	2432692
26/1	Ibo Al Fuja'a	UASC	4843150
26/1	Saint Constantinos	Al Qutub	4747815
27/1	Ocean Envoy	Al Majeed	2421439
29/1	Dubai	UASC	4843150
29/1	Grace Liberty	Al Kamal	2425477

COMPILED BY Alghanim Barber Shipping Co. PO Box 21708 Safat, Alghanim Industries Bldg. Airport Road, Shuwaikh. Phone 4843988/4842988 extn. 3638/3614.

Dear Junior Readers,

Yesterday was the final day of the Japan Week activities and today's Junior Times focuses on some of the week's special events for children.

One of the events was kite-making and flying. With the beautiful weather we have in Kuwait now, why not go outdoors and try your hand at flying a kite. It is a traditional pastime of Japan that is well worth enjoying in Kuwait.

Be sure to watch for overhead power lines when you fly your kite and have fun seeing how high it will climb.

Aunt Barbara



Japanese tops

TOPS were introduced into Japan from China and Korea about 1,200 years ago. Like many other imports, they were enjoyed first by aristocrats, spreading to the common people later. Around the turn of the eighteenth century, clever performing tops manipulated by entertainers were very popular. So-called "quarrelling tops" were also popular, and they were used in gambling, with some people betting their entire houses and fortunes on their favourite top.

At present there are about 1,000 kinds of tops in Japan. They range in form from simple spinning tops to elaborate performing ones used by entertainers and in size from a minute 0.5 mm for the smallest to about 90 cm for the largest. Depending on how they are spun, tops can be basically divided into these four categories: twisted tops, rubbed tops, string tops, and thrown tops. They are many interesting tops such as humming tops which hum when they are

spun and mischievous tops which look like they could not be spun at all.

A good top should both spin well and be beautiful to look at. To create a top that spins well, the most important point is the placement of the centre of gravity. Tops are made from woods such as maple and dogwood, but even when well dried, wood from the north side of the tree can have a different weight than that from the south side, which make it difficult to place the centre of gravity in exactly the right spot.

It is extremely difficult to understand the physical laws concerning spinning tops, but we can think of the planet Earth itself as a kind of top, spinning endlessly around its axis. And it seems very interesting that the people who live on the Earth spin smaller tops. It is regrettable that the number of master craftsmen who fashion traditional tops in Japan is decreasing yearly. We should try to encourage this ancient, traditional art.

Japanese kites

KITES were first invented about 2,000 years ago, in China. They first appeared in Japan during the Heian period (794-1185), when they were known as "paper hawks," the same name they were known by in China. Thus, many believe that the kite was imported into Japan directly from China.

In the Heian period, kites were often used for the communicating of messages. It is even said that they were used to carry secret messages across moats and into castle keeps. In their 1,000-year history in Japan, kites underwent a wonderful development. The main reasons for this were that Japan already had excellent paper, bamboo, and hemp thread for use in kite flying. Kite making became popular, and people invented different kinds of kites all over Japan. But kites really entered their golden age during the Edo period (1603-1868). Until that time, the cost of paper was so high that only the nobility could afford to

play with kites, but they gradually spread among the common people. With the development of the art of woodblock printmaking and the use of many colours in the art of ukiyoe prints, those techniques began to be applied to kites, which resulted in the production of kites with beautifully coloured pictures.

So popular did kites become that the common folk would often fly them over the estates of the samurai, so that they could if only vicariously look down upon their masters. In fact, so popular did this pastime become that the shogunal authorities once forbade it.

Today, there are probably more types of kites in Japan than in any other country in the world. They are flown at present mostly on festive occasions, since it is said to be an auspicious omen if one's kite flies very high. One example of this custom takes place every year on May 5 (which used to be celebrated as the Boys' Festival). When a

Japanese children participate in Japan Week festivities

THE Japanese Embassy and Kuwait Science Club launched Japan Week on Thursday with a multitude of myriad coloured kites in a glorious Kuwait winter sky at the club's premises, which were alive with more than the usual activity, as 80 Kuwaiti club members and 40 Japanese children, from ages 7 to 14, met to learn the traditional Japanese art of making kites and tops.

Mr Ohashi, who started making kites 12 years ago for his children and has since written seven books on kite-making, followed

the children outside as they completed their kites and were ready to fly them. As the children flew their kites, he brought out his most recent invention which he explained was a "kite-train": a series of 600 multi-coloured kites spaced one metre apart on a single string. He explained that the kites are made of plastic, using piano wire instead of bamboo for cross pieces, which allows the air to pass over the kite from both directions.

And as if the 800-metre kite train was not spectacular enough, Mr Ohashi began pulling it in and stretching the string of kites across the field, created an arch, which Mr Kunio Nakamura, the Japanese Embassy's First Secretary said was very appropriate in Kuwait since the arch is an integral part of Islamic architecture and design.

Mr Ohashi, who was previously an editor of an education magazine, said that he plans to exhibit an 1,800-kite arch in front of the Eiffel Tower in the near future.

As the children were busy flying their kites and watching the arch we discussed how the organisers had been able to arrange such perfect weather for kite-flying. Finally I asked about how long 600 metres of kites could stay in the air, thinking there might be some kind of world record on such a feat. Mr Ohashi simply replied, "Please ask the wind."

But the weather was not an important factor in the top-making and children crowded eagerly around Mr Hiroi as he worked at his lathe making the traditional Japanese tops that his father, grandfather and two more generations of Hirois had done before him.

Mr Hiroi, who makes tops at his home workshop near Tokyo, said he has 33 students including his 13-year-old son. His tops, which range in size from about two centimetres high to 18, are sold in famous Tokyo department stores. He said that a small top might take him 15 minutes to make and one of the

larger ones between one and two hours.

When I first started watching Mr Hiroi at his work table I noticed a piece of paper with Japanese script on it. Thinking it might possibly be a schedule of his day's activities I dismissed it from my mind. It wasn't until later, when I saw this lovely craftsman surrounded by a group of Kuwaiti boys eagerly watching his work and trying to converse with him, that I found out the meaning of the Japanese script. One of the boys said something to Mr Hiroi in Arabic, and Mr Hiroi picked up the paper and started reading. "Keif Hallak, Shokran, Massallama." A beautiful example of the earnestness of the Japanese in strengthening the understanding between the two diverse cultures.

Munjid Amara the

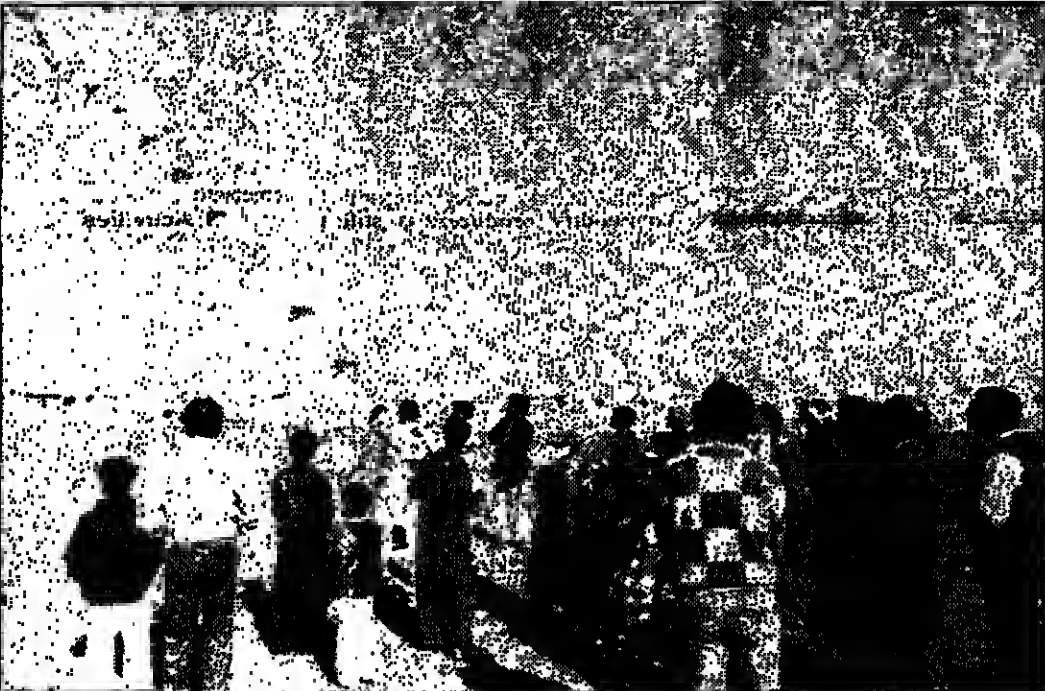
Head of Research at the Science Club and organiser of the activities, trying his hand at flying his daughter's kite, said that events such as this give the Kuwaiti children an opportunity to meet children from other nationalities and to learn something new. And in fact every child I spoke to said this was the first time they had made a kite and for many it was the first time to even fly a kite.

The children were given the chance to fly their kites as soon as they completed assembling them and after lunch seven winners were selected based on the construction of their kites and how high they could fly them. Abeer Mohammad, Iyad Nasser, Salem Abdul Aziz, Hidekazu Abe, Hama Ra'ad, Ali Kassem and Kumiko Nakame were selected as the winners with beautifully constructed, high-flying kites.

The Japanese Ambassador Mr Nimoru and the Deputy Head of the Science Club Adnan El Mir presented the winners with tops and kites made by the guest artists.

The Japanese Embassy also presented the Kuwait Science Club with a number of photo panels showing Japanese space technology and related video tapes.

As 10-year-old Athoob was making her kite, I asked her what she liked about this special day. She replied with a big smile, "We do things," and then pausing for the right words to use in English, she said, "It's so good." And judging from the expressions on most of the children's faces throughout the day most of them felt exactly the same way.



Young artists exhibit work

CRAYON beach and underwater scenes, silhouette art of mosques, dhows and Seif Palace, illustrated stories and chalk drawings were just a few of the lovely works of art exhibited by children from the Japanese School of Kuwait as part of Japan Week at the Hilton Hotel.

When entering the

exhibition, one was greeted by a huge dragon made from construction paper and a wood and wire frame. A number of fish and bird mobiles hung from the ceiling and one wall featured beautiful calligraphy work, which is taught by Mr Hideo Sakamoto, the School Master.

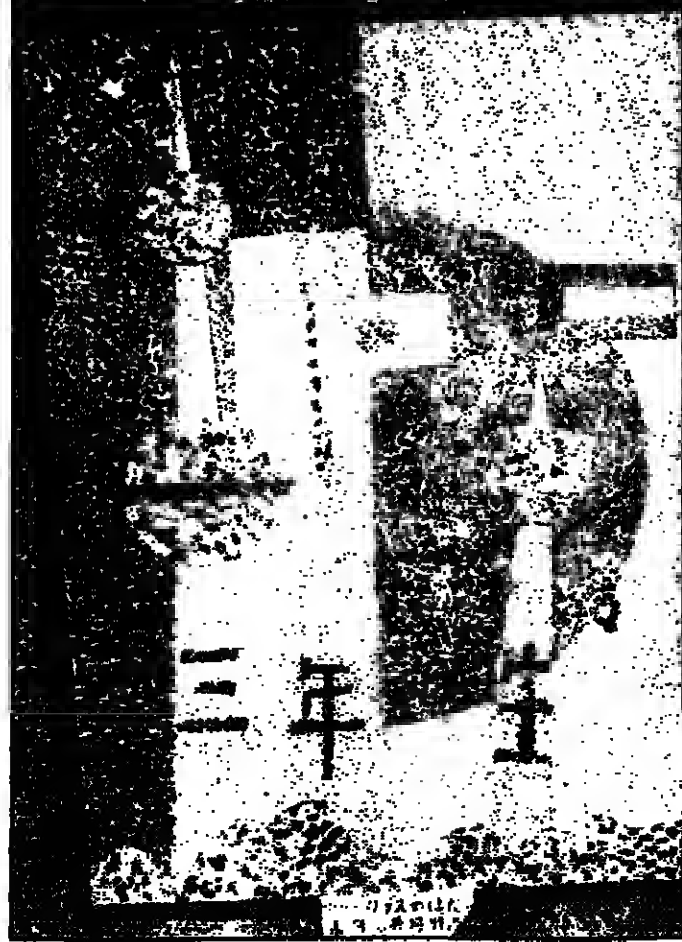
The Sixth Grade teacher

Mr Hikosaka, who was responsible for organising the children's art exhibition, said the children have art classes twice a week, which all of the children enjoy.

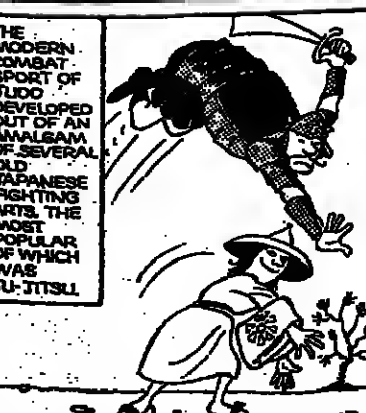
It appeared that the Japanese School of Kuwait, with about 80 students, encourages the children to use scenes from

their local environment for subject matter and the Kuwait Towers was a dominant feature in the art work.

The children and teachers at the Japanese School should be congratulated for the superb quality of their work and presentation.



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



THE MODERN COMBAT SPORT OF JUDO DEVELOPED OUT OF AN AMALGAM OF SEVERAL OLD JAPANESE FIGHTING ARTS. THE POPULARITY OF WHICH WAS JU-TITSL.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE INVOLVED IN TOKYO IN 1958. YOSHIO YAMASHITA WON NINE CONSECUTIVE JAPANESE TITLES (1957-65). OVER 4500 FIGHTS, 1981 AND 1982, OPEN CATEGORY IN 1984. HE RETIRED UNDEFEATED AFTER 205 SUCCESSIVE WINS. 1971-85.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL BRITISH WOMAN COMPETITOR IN THE 3100 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS WAS KAREN BRIGGS (A. 1981) WHO WON THREE TITLES: UNDER 48 LB IN 1982, 1984 AND 1986.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

R BUSINESS

URDU



سری لنکا کے صدر جاناتان پر پانچ ماہ کی قید کی سزا سنائی گئی ہے۔

سری لنکا بھارت دوستی کے معاملے کی تجویز

صدر پورے دورے میں پانچ ماہ کی قید کی سزا سنائی گئی ہے۔ سری لنکا کے صدر جاناتان پر پانچ ماہ کی قید کی سزا سنائی گئی ہے۔

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پاکستان کے شہر منگورہ میں بم کا دھماکہ، نو افراد ہلاک

زخمی ہونے والے ۱۴ افراد میں عورتیں اور بچے بھی شامل ہیں۔

اسلام آباد۔ ۲۵ جنوری (پ) پاکستان کے شمال مغربی سرحدی صوبے خیبر پختونخوا میں شہر منگورہ کے قریب ایک گاؤں میں بم کا دھماکہ ہوا۔ دھماکے کے نتیجے میں نو افراد ہلاک ہو گئے۔

عراق طیاروں کا آئل ٹینکر پر حملہ

بغداد۔ ۲۵ جنوری (ر) عراقی فوجیوں نے اسرائیلی طیاروں کا آئل ٹینکر پر حملہ کیا۔

عراقی طیاروں کا آئل ٹینکر پر حملہ

عراقی طیاروں کا آئل ٹینکر پر حملہ کیا گیا۔ اسرائیلی طیاروں کا آئل ٹینکر پر حملہ کیا گیا۔

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عرب ٹائمز

مشرق وسطیٰ میں شائع ہونے والا سب سے بڑا اخبار

مشگ ۲۶ جنوری ۱۹۸۸ء۔ ۴۰۸ جیمز ایڈیٹر احمد جبار

عرب ٹائمز

عرب ٹائمز کے مدیران نے کہا کہ وہ اپنے اخبار کو دنیا کا سب سے بڑا اخبار بنانے کا ارادہ رکھتے ہیں۔

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INDIA LOSE FINAL ONE-DAY GAME BY NINE WICKETS

W. Indies end tour on winning note

TRIVANDRUM, India, Jan 25. (Reuters) Opening batsman Phil Simmons hit an unbeaten century as the West Indies ended their triumphant tour with another crushing win over India today.

Simmons, who finished with 104 not out, helped steer the West Indies to a nine-wicket victory over India with 2.1 overs to spare in their seventh and final one-day international.

The triumph gave the tourists a 6-1 winning margin in the series and delighted captain Viv Richards.

Failed
"I am most pleased with my team's performance," he said. "It is a much better sight leaving India this way than at the time when we came."

The four-match Test series, which began after the West Indies failed even to reach the semifinals of the World Cup, was halved 1-1 with two draws.

Acting Indian skipper Ravi Shastri said his team lacked motivation to win once the one-day series had been decided. But his excuse could not detract from an explosive batting display by Simmons and Gordon Greenidge.

After India had scored 239 for



Simmons: quick unbeaten 104

eight, setting a run rate of 5.33 per over for victory, the West Indian openers took charge.

With Greenidge the more aggressive of the two, they set

about the target of 240 runs with great energy and soon made it look like child's play as they put on 164 for the first wicket.

Greenidge, who hit 84 off 75

balls, looked set for a century when he was stumped off Maninder Singh. His knock included five sixes and four fours.

Richie Richardson joined Simmons and the two continued to assault the pedestrian Indian attack. They added 77 in quick time before Simmons hit the winning shot and completed his first century in one-day international.

Simmons finished 104 not out after an innings which included four sixes and four fours off 129 balls. Richardson, who played a supporting role, scored 37.

Earlier, Richardson won the toss for the West Indies and put India in to bat on an easy wicket after play was delayed by an hour because of dew. The delay cut the number of overs to 45 a side.

Indian opener Kris Srikkanth, who was dropped by Richardson at first slip in the first over, went on to make 101 including 10 fours and three sixes.

Together with Mohinder Amarnath, who came in at the fall of the first wicket, Srikkanth added 127 for the second wicket before being bowled by Eldine Baptiste.

Amarnath hit 56, but once he had departed the Indian batting collapsed and only Mohammad Azharuddin defied the West

Indian attack with a respectable 36.

Scoreboard

INDIA	
K. Srikkanth b Baptiste	101
R. Lamba lbw b Patterson	8
M. Amarnath b Patterson	56
Kapil Dev lbw b Richards	1
R. Shastri st Williams b Richards	3
M. Azharuddin c Baptiste b Davis	36
K. More c Richards b Patterson	3
S. Manjrekar not out	14
S. Sharma run out	2
Maninder Singh not out	1
Extras (b-2 lb-7 w-1 nb-4)	14
Total (for eight wickets - 45 overs)	239

Fall of wickets: 1-33 2-160 3-161 4-167 5-200 6-204 7-232 8-234.

Did not bat: Narendra Hirwani.

Bowling: Patterson 9-0-34-3, Davis 9-0-59-1, Benjamin 9-0-41-0, Baptiste 9-0-51-1, Richards 9-0-40-2, Hooper 1-0-5-0.

WEST INDIES

G. Greenidge st More b Maninder Singh	84
P. Simmons not out	104
R. Richardson not out	37
Extras (b-1 lb-7 w-1 nb-4)	16
Total (for one wicket - 42.5 overs)	241

Fall of wickets: 1-164.

Did not bat: V. Richards, A. Logie, C. Hooper, W. Davis, P. Patterson, D. Williams, E. Baptiste, W. Benjamin.

Bowling: Kapil Dev 4-0-28-0, Sharma 6-5-0-47-0, Amarnath 5-0-21-0, Maninder Singh 9-0-42-1, Hirwani 9-0-40-0, Shastri 2-0-24-0, Srikkanth 7-0-26-0.

was letting them down. They equalised, however, with a long range penalty from Jones, who then gave them a 6-3 lead with a simpler effort.

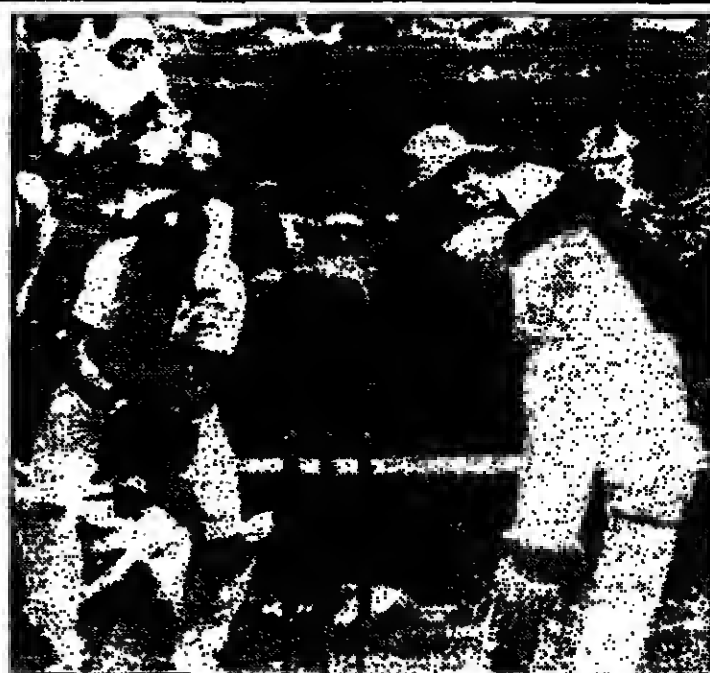
At half-time the Dubai team was looking fired, and after the interval the Nomads camped in the Exiles' "22" with their forwards dominant. Sole, Hopkins and Levitt all went close as Dubai thwarted all Kuwait's efforts, so it was a shock for the Nomads to find themselves behind. A Dubai clearance kick failed to find touch, the ball was not cleared and the Dubai support swept through for an easy try.

The successful conversion gave the Exiles a 9-6 lead, which they soon extended, as the Nomads' concentration lapsed. First the pack failed to support Sherwood as he won a line out, then the three-quarters allowed Salsman to cut through for a try, when he should have been tackled.

Pressure.

Kuwait came back strongly and started to get their game back together. They narrowed Dubai's lead to a single point when good pressure from Tarbet resulted in a penalty try which was converted by Jones, but time ran out for them as they continued to press for the winning score.

This week's match at Fintas has been put back from Tuesday evening to Thursday afternoon, when the Married Men will take on the Bachelor Boys, kick off 3.30 pm. Training will take place as normal on Tuesday at 7.30 pm.



Robinson swings for a boundary on his way to 166. (Reuters wirephoto)

Robinson gives England victory

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Jan 25. (Reuters) A brilliant 166 by Tim Robinson gave England a seven-wicket victory over Northern Districts in their second three-day tour match of New Zealand today.

Robinson spanked the Northern bowlers for 10 sixes, and his 150 came up in just 144 balls as England passed their winning target of 294 with more than 40 minutes to spare after the hosts declared their second innings at 254 for four 45 minutes before lunch.

Outshine

Bill Athey with 60, featured in a first wicket partnership of 208 with Robinson, who outscored Zimbabwean Graeme Hick's sparkling 146 for the host side, including seven sixes.

Neil Foster, who came in at number five, continued the big hitting, opening his account with a shot out of the ground and then completing the match with another six. England finished at 299 for three with Foster on 24 and Bruce French 21.

England will fly to Sydney for the bicentenary Test against Australia on Sunday happy that their batsmen are in form. But they will be more concerned at the performance of their bowlers.

Only David Capel was able to contain the Northern batsmen. He ended with one for 14 off eight overs, while Eddie Hem-

mings' 9.4 overs cost 54 for one wicket and Paul Jarvis' five overs were plundered for 39 and no return.

A total of 998 runs were scored during the match for just 13 wickets.

Scoreboard

NORTHERN DISTRICTS first innings 242 for four declared.

Second innings (overnight 162 for two)

G. Bradburn lbw Capel	11
D. Crocker c Moxon b Foster	7
L. White lbw Foster	80
G. Hick c Capel b Hemmings	146
B. Young not out	3
Extras (b-4 lb-1 nb-2)	7
Total (for four wickets declared)	254

Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-24, 3-212, 4-254.

Bowling: Dilley 11-2-37-0, Foster 17-2-76-2, Jarvis 6-0-39-0, Capel 8-3-14-1 (nb-2), Hemmings 9-4-154-1, Athey 4-0-25-0, Moxon 1-0-4-0.

ENGLAND first innings 203 for two declared.

Second innings:

W. Athey c Crocker b Kugeleja	60
T. Robinson c Cooper b Triebel	166
D. Capel b Kugeleja	13
B. French not out	18
N. Foster not out	27
Extras (nb-6 w-1 lb-8)	15
Total (for three wickets)	299

Fall of wickets: 1-208, 2-254, 3-256.

Bowling: Triebel 19-4-83-1, Thompson 6-2-11-0 (NB-3), McKinnon 21-3-77-0, Barrett 6-0-36-0 (nb-3), Bradburn 5-0-55-0, Kugeleja 8-1-18-2 (w-1) Crocker 1-0-5-0, Cooper 0.3-0-6-0.

Broncos seek to control Manley and Mann in Super Bowl

DENVER, Jan 25. (AP) For all the pre-Super Bowl hype about the Denver Broncos being a one-man team, there is a voice of reason that says otherwise.

Actually, there are two such voices, one belonging to Broncos offensive line coach Alex Gibbs, and the other to offensive tackle Dave Studdard.

Quarterback John Elway cannot weave his magic without help, they say.

Gibbs says flatly the outcome of Super Bowl game next Sunday will hinge on how well the Broncos' offensive line controls the Washington Redskins' two fine defensive ends, Dexter Manley and Charles Mann.

Blocking.
"That's the game," he said. "If we can control them, then we've got a chance. If we don't, we're going to get beat."

Studdard, who will be blocking against Manley most of the game, said, "If I don't do a good job on Dexter, it will be a long day for John."

The Redskins devised a workable defensive scheme in the National Football Conference Championship game, first containing the scrambling of Minnesota quarterback Wade Wilson and then sacking him eight times.

Denver figures the Redskins will do much of the same in the Super Bowl, bringing Manley and Mann hard on the outside to keep Elway in the pocket, and then sending tackles Dave Butz and Darryl Grant up the middle.

Elway tends to be most dangerous when he can get outside and buy time to find a receiver, often for a big play.

Studdard, one of Denver's most consistent offensive linemen, has faced Manley before, during a 31-20 Denver victory late in the 1986 season.

"I remember he gave me some problems early in the game," Studdard said. "I really had my hands full for the first five minutes or so until I got used to him. I was able to make some adjustments that worked better."

"He didn't get any sacks that game, but he did hurry John a few times."

Studdard says Manley has lightning speed. "He's like (Chris) Dickerson of Minnesota. He's like a stand-up linebacker. He's got that speed and he's strong as hell. I can't believe he didn't make the Pro Bowl this year."

Studdard says he will be working against Manley "most of the day, except when they do some twists and bring Mann on the outside. He's an awfully good player, too."

A nine-year veteran from Texas, Studdard will know how well he has fared with Manley. "Dexter is a talker, and he wants to jump all over the place and point his finger at people," Studdard says. "He showboats when he's having his way. If he's doing a lot of showboating, it will mean I'm not doing my job. I need to keep him quiet."

Danish striker
AARAU, Switzerland, Jan 25. (Reuters) Danish international striker Lars Lundberg has joined FC Aarau from West German champions Bayern Munich, the Swiss First Division club said today.

A club official said he had agreed to a contract until the end of the season, which resumes on March 5, with an option for an extension.

Nomads avenge Dubai defeat

KUWAIT Nomads kept alive their hopes of retaining their Gulf rugby title, by overcoming Dubai Exiles 25-0 at Fintas Park on Friday.

The result more than made up for the defeat at the same opponent's hands in Dubai in November, and effectively ended any hopes the Exiles had on becoming Gulf champions themselves.

Watched by a large and enthusiastic crowd, for so long starved of quality inter-Gulf rugby, the TNT Skypack sponsored Nomads started the match in aggressive fashion, severely damaging the Exiles' front row in the first two scrummages. From that point on the game settled into a pattern, with the Nomads' pack continually driving forward, as the Exiles defended desperately.

Continued
The continual pressure on the Exiles' line eventually resulted in Dubai conceding a penalty in front of the posts which Adams converted easily to give the Nomads a 3-0 lead.

Kuwait continued to attack relentlessly, but it was some time before they extended their lead, with Adams once again involved. Receiving the ball from a line out, he cut back towards his forward support, beat a couple of men with a blink of his eyelid, and fed the supporting Hill.

Hill and then Braid made solid progress towards the Exiles' line, before Robinson burst onto the ball to take it over for a fine try. Adams converted to make it 9-0 to the Nomads, and the cushion



Steve Hill drives on as Mark Armstrong (2), Con Barry (3) and Phil Quinn (4) look on.

resulted in a more controlled approach from then on.

After the half-time interval, the Nomads' domination became more complete. The back row of Hill, Gibb and Robinson were in outstanding form, and the former widened the gap with a well taken try after throwing an outrageous dummy.

Adams conversion attempt struggled over to make the score 15-0.

Hill and Robinson then combined to further stretch the Nomads' lead. Hill picked up from a scrumage, and fed Robinson, as ever at his skipper's side for the try which Adams converted. Hill completed the scoring with a solo effort after yet another pick up from his number 8 position, and the rout was total.

Though the back row were always evident, the win had much to do with a thoroughly competent performance from the rest of the pack. The front five's scrummaging was excellent, and Quinn and Evans did the hard graft in the loose. Outside, the backs tackled well whenever Dubai tried to move the ball, and ran straight on the few occasions they had the opportunity.

The Nomads' 2nd XV were unlucky to go down for the second successive week by a narrow margin, this time losing 13-12 to the Exiles' 2nd team. In a very close game, there was never much between the two sides, but the Nomads were kicking themselves for not converting an intensive passage of pressure in the second half into points.

Dubai took an early lead with a penalty after some indiscipline Nomads' play, Kuwait responded to this by a period of all out attack, but the final pass

Barcelona fall while Real triumph

MADRID, Jan 25. (Reuters) Barcelona's long-suffering fans were disappointed yet again yesterday as the Catalans were humiliated by a 1-0 victory by modest Osasuna who had never beaten them at home before.

By contrast, League leaders Real Madrid became the first team to beat Real Valladolid at home this year as they ended the first half of the season with a 2-0 victory that kept them five points clear.

Barcelona's coach Luis Aragones is ill with nervous exhaustion. Yesterday's gloomy performance, with midfielder

Victor Munoz and West German striker Bernd Schuster earning an automatic one-match suspension after collecting their fourth yellow card apiece, will have done little to cheer him.

Puiled

Barcelona goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta let go a ball from Juan Goicoechea in the 78th minute and Jose Samaria picked it up to knock home the winning goal.

Real Madrid, despite missing injured internationals Emilio Butragueno and Rafael Gordillo, put two goals past the grandfather of Spanish goalkeepers

— the 39-year-old Argentine Carlos Fenoy — to beat Valladolid.

Real went ahead after 38 minutes with a powerful low kick from Martin Vazquez.

Valladolid pulled out all the stops in the second half to try to equalise but Real winger Francisco Llorente made it 2-0 as he skilfully dribbled past Fenoy and chipped the ball into an empty net.

Two goals by Jose Bakero, after 33 and 47 minutes, helped Welshman John Toshack's Real Sociedad to an easy 3-0 home win over Sporting Gijon.

Porto struggle past Academica

LISBON, Jan 25. (Reuters) Porto struggled to a 1-0 home win over Academica yesterday but, with nearest rivals Benfica managing only a draw, the result stretched their lead in the Portuguese First Division to seven points.

Striker Fernando Gomes gave the European and World Cup champions their goal in the 20th minute when he swooped on a defensive blunder to shoot home from close range.

But Porto, showing fatigue after a 5-0 midweek win, looked below their best.

MSCC outlast OBCC to reach semifinals

MORNING Star Cricket Club (MSCC) qualified for the semifinals of their trophy with a five-wicket victory over Old Boys Cricket Club (OBCC) at the Airport-Hijra ground on Friday.

Old Boys elected to bat but soon paid for their decision as opener Waheed was superbly caught by Riaz Chaudhry at point off a ball from Tarique which moved away.

Tarique returned with figures of three for 10 as the Old Boys reached 106 for six in 25 overs. Ghulam Haider (23) and Riaz Mian (16) played well.

Found
Apart from the three wickets taken by Tarique, one each went to Abid and Ansar.

MSCC soon found themselves in deep trouble when they lost their first three wickets for only seven runs. All of them were claimed by Riaz Mian.

Riaz Chaudhry and Abid Hussain then put their heads down in an effort to lift MSCC out of trouble. The two put on 50 runs for the 4th wicket before Riaz was bowled by Ghulam Haider for 23.

Rehan bowled Ejaz for 10 but Abid and left-hander Jamil saw MSCC reach their opponents total in the 21st over without further loss. Abid batted well for his 44 runs while Jamil hit 16.



Tarique: three for 10

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Sri Lanka draw with Tasmania

HOBART, Australia, Jan 25. (Reuters) A patient century by Asanka Gurusinha led a Sri Lankan fightback on the final day of the drawn three-day cricket match against Tasmania today.

Gurusinha made 118 out of a total of 303 which left the touring side 36 runs adrift of Tasmania's first innings total of 339 for six declared.

Then game ended in a draw when it was agreed by the captains to finish at the fall of the last Sri Lankan wicket.

Gurusinha's century was his second of the tour. He hit 202 against Western Australia in Perth late last month.

Rescue

He linked with captain Rajan Madugalle in a sixth-wicket partnership of 131 in 162 minutes to rescue Sri Lanka from a perilous 112 for five at lunch.

Gurusinha came in last night when Sri Lanka were 10-1 and he occupied the crease for 323 minutes, facing 232 balls. He hit eight fours.

Tasmania's acting captain Peter Faulkner praised his young pacemen Troy Cooley and Clave Young. He said they had benefited from playing with former Australian Test hero Dennis Lillee.

Cooley finished with 4-95 from 22 overs.

Kokan beat Colts for semifinals

KOKAN Cricket Club scored a 29-run victory over Sri Lanka Colts Cricket Club to reach the semifinals of the Sabah Trophy at the Safeway ground on Friday.

Kokan, after winning the toss and electing to bat, lost their first two wickets for only 19 runs before Javed Kaloo repaired the damage by scoring 23.

Ibrahim kept his head down, scoring in ones and twos; on his way to 67. Ibrar with an unbeaten 39 and Zakaria 28 took Kokan to 194 for the loss of six wickets in the 30 allotted overs.

For Colts, Chitt took two for 32 while Pavia and Hiran got one wicket each. The other two batsmen were run out.

Unbeaten
In reply, Sri Lanka Colts started well by scoring 74 for the loss of only two wickets in 12 overs. There was a middle-order collapse in which the Colts lost three quick wickets and were in deep trouble at 83 for 5.

Toward the end Dulikshi with an unbeaten 50 and Sistra 13 tried to take Colts toward the Kokan total but fell short by 29 runs. They could only manage 165 for eight.

Bader was the main wicket-taker for Kokan with three for 24 while Zakaria got two for 22. Ahmad Ibrar and Javed Kaloo picked up a wicket each.

In the afternoon match at the same ground, Friends beat Farwaniya Punjab Cricket Club by 17 runs. Friends scored 179 for five in 25 overs while Farwaniya Punjab replied with 162 for eight.

Hubara in chase for two titles

THE KOC-Hubara League reach an exciting climax in the coming weeks when BKMEE meet Hubara on Friday, Feb 15, in a game destined to determine the champions of the first Jashanmal League.

Hubara are also involved in the Rahim League decider on March 10 against the strong Evergreen side. The other sides in the League will not be giving up the chase as they hope that the leading teams will falter in their final matches.

Standings
KOC Thursday Rahim Cricket League

	P	W	L	D	Pts
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Hubara	4	0	4	0	20
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Evergreen	4	0	2	0	18
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Flying Arrows	4	2	1	0	10
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Force	4	1	3	0	7
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Falcon	4	1	3	0	5
--------	---	---	---	---	---

Hawks	4	2	2	0	2
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Casuals	4	0	4	0	1
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KOC Friday Jashanmal Cricket League

	P	W	L	D	Pts
--	---	---	---	---	-----

SKME	4	4	0	0	20
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Hubara	4	3	1	0	16
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Casuals	4	3	1	0	15
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Hawks	4	3	1	0	14
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Crescent	4	1	3	0	6
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NAK	4	0	4	0	2
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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Olympic TV

SEOUL, Jan 25, (Reuters): East European broadcasters grouped under the international organisation of radio and television have signed a \$3 million contract to televise the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games. Games organisers said today.

Ajax triumph

THE HAGUE, Jan 25, (Reuters): Ajax, being up unexpectedly well after the departure of manager Johan Cruyff, stormed to another victory this weekend, beating Sparta 4-0 after a slow start.

Karpov wins

WIJK-AAN-ZEE, Netherlands, Jan 25, (AP): Former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union held Swedish grandmaster Ulf Andersson to a draw with black in final-round play to take the 12,500-guilder (\$6,750) first prize in the primary section of the 50th annual Hoogovens chess tournament yesterday.

World chess

SAINT JOHN, New Brunswick, Jan 25, (AP): Johann Hjarson of Iceland, England's Nigel Short and Arthur Yusupov of the Soviet Union scored crushing victories in the first round of the World Chess Championship candidates matches yesterday.

Lester Piggott

LONDON, Jan 25, (AP): Former British champion jockey Lester Piggott, jailed for three years in October for tax evasion, is being probed by British authorities for yet more irregularities in his earnings, a report claimed today.

Warilla Masters

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 25, (AP): Whakarewa bowlers Don McKillop and Peter Clark (Skip) earned a trip to Australia to play the prestigious Warilla Masters pairs in Wollongong when they won the tenth Manurewa Invitation tournament today.

NBA games

NEW YORK, Jan 25, (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association games played yesterday (only games scheduled):

Atlanta	118	New Jersey	111
Indiana	128	Phoenix	109
Washington	131	Philadelphia	99
LA Lakers	116	Seattle	109
Portland	119	Detroit	111

Rosebowl series

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Jan 25, (AP): Australian Zoe Goss took the Australian women's cricket team to its third win over New Zealand in the Shell Rosebowl Series at the Basin Reserve today with a hard-hitting innings of 96 not out.

NHL games

NEW YORK, Jan 25, (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League games played yesterday (only games scheduled):

Los Angeles	2	Winnipeg	1
Montreal	2	Detroit	1
Minnesota	5	Philadelphia	3
Chicago	3	Quebec	3
		Vancouver	1

Sunday racing

LONDON, Jan 25, (Reuters): Sunday horse racing in Britain was rejected today in a surprise turn-around by the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU). The union, whose members include betting shop and stable staff, has withdrawn its support after failing to reach agreement with the National Trainers' Federation (NTF) over terms and conditions for stable employees.

30km relay

ANTERSSELVA, Italy, Jan 25, (AP): Frank Peter Roetsch led East Germany's A-team to victory in a men's 30-kilometre relay biathlon event yesterday. East Germany's B-team finished second, ahead of Norway and Finland, which were third and fourth, respectively.

JAHANGIR & CO. CRUISE TO VICTORY

Pakistan and Kuwait blank opponents

PAKISTAN maintained its winning streak at the 4th Asian Squash Championship with victories over Bahrain and Lebanon in the team event at Kuwait's Al Arabi Sports Club courts yesterday.

Kuwait also won its first match against Bangladesh yesterday and a victory this evening against Malaysia could take it into the next round.

Pakistan, the Asian champions, faced no difficulty in either their morning or evening matches. In the morning they brushed aside Bangladesh 3-0 and in the evening achieved a similar result against Lebanon.

Replaced

In the morning matches, Pakistan's Umar Hayat beat Hashem 6-9 9-29 9-3. Jahangir Khan crushed Abdullah Al Bloushi 9-2 9-1 while Maqsood Ahmed thrashed Naser Abdulaziz 9-3 9-3 9-5.

In the evening, Umar was replaced by Qamar Zaman who crushed Gilbert of Lebanon 9-4 9-1 9-1. Jahangir started where he left off in the morning to rout Rami Jarkass 9-1 9-1 9-4 while Maqsood beat Fawaz 9-29 6-5.

All the Kuwaiti players were at their best against Bangladesh. In the first match, Adel Al Gharib trounced Anisul Haque 9-19 39-0. Tareq Al Uwalish also had an easy 9-2 9-1 9-3 win over Chauhan and Fakher Al Sayed found things easy in a 9-19 29-6 victory over Hamed.

Hong Kong also won its matches against Iraq and Sri Lanka 3-0 scores. Singapore won by similar scores against the same teams.



Fakher (right) sends a return.

Pakistan lost both its matches by 3-0 scores. In the morning match it was beaten by Jordan and in the evening lost to India. India's Panadole crushed Tareq 9-1 9-1 9-2. Daruwala thrashed Anis 9-09 19-1 and Singh trounced Erfan 9-4 9-3 9-1.

Today's matches are important to all the teams except Pakistan, which is already topping its group after its victories on the first day. From the same group, Bahrain meet Lebanon to decide the runners-up spot.

The most important match will, however, be between Kuwait and Malaysia at the Al Arabi courts. Both the teams after their victories yesterday know that a slip could cost them a place in the next round. The top teams of all the groups will qualify for the next round along with the runner-up having the best record in the initial rounds.

The same situation prevails in another group where India and Jordan came out on top in their matches on the first day but still both of them will strive for a win over the other to ensure their passage into the next round.

Exciting

At the Kazma Club, Hong Kong meet Singapore in a match which will be most probably the most exciting of the day. Both the teams are equally balanced and either could score a win and clinch the top place in their group.

All the matches will begin at 10 am.

Meanwhile, a reception was held for the visiting heads of delegations on Sunday evening. Sheikh Fahd Al Saad, the president of the Kuwait Squash Federation, congratulated the Pakistani squad for taking the top four places in the singles event.



Adel Gharib (right) sends a bullet-like drive.



Tareq Al Uwalish (right) hits a forehand shot.

The reception was also attended by the president of the International Squash Federation, Ronnie Sinclair. Other top officials at the reception included Sheikh Ahmed Fahd Al Ahmed, the vice-president of the Al Arabi Sports Club and the president of the Asian Squash Federation, Dr

Edward Jacob.

Maqsood Ahmed, who lost to Qamar on Sunday said yesterday an injury on the morning of the game had affected his performance in the last match.

He said that he planned to climb up the world rankings again and was nowadays practicing a lot. He added that an injury, he had suffered about two years ago had affected his game in the past but now that he was again fit, an all out effort would be made to be among the top most players.

Maqsood said that in the past he had defeated all the top players in the world. His list of victims includes Jahangir Khan. Maqsood added that he had been the world No. 3 once and intended to take at least that place again and even try to be the world No. 1 or 2. Some squash experts believe that Maqsood's game is a combination of Jahangir's power and fitness and the skills of Qamar.

Played

For Maqsood, this is his second visit to Kuwait. He had come to Kuwait in 1982 and played against Qamar in a number of exhibition matches. He praised the Kuwait Squash Federation for its excellent organisation of the Asian championships.

Kuwait's Adel Al Gharib said yesterday that his team's victory over Bangladesh will boost the team's hopes to achieve a good result in the team event. He added that it was more important for the Kuwait team to beat Malaysia today.

Last-minute Fisa ban on Group B

By Gail Seery

FISA have changed their mind about their October decision to allow Group B cars in the Middle East Rally Championship events for a further year. Daryl Westbrook of Fisa sent a telex to the KT Club yesterday instructing them to "cancel Group B" cars for top seeded drivers.

Group B cars are the supercars of the sport, being highly specialised rally vehicles with high power outputs. Group A cars on the other hand, are much closer to standard vehicles and more within the reach and pocket of the ordinary driver.

Delay

This measure has been called for a number of items in the past, most notably by Dave Richards of Rothmans in an exclusive Arab Times interview last November, in which he claimed



Ottmar Lange

that Fisa's indecision and delay over introducing this rule was killing the Middle East Championship. However, the last minute timing, with the first round of the season to be held in Qatar only three weeks from now, will throw drivers' plans askew.

The situation poses a number

of anomalies. Mohammed Bin Sulayem, Saeed Al Hajri, Ahmed Khalifa, Michel Saleh and Richard Heinbach, who between them took all the first and second places in last year's championship, (thus earning B-seeding) cannot now drive their Group B cars. The Porsche had already been retired, but we can no longer expect to see the red and white Toyota Celica in the hands of Sulayem, or an Audi Quattro driven by Khalifa.

Change

On the other hand, while these drivers must now make last minute plans to change their cars, all other drivers, including ex-B seeds like Kuwait's Ottmar Lange, Qatar's Jaber Al Marri, and Oman's Toni Georgiou can go ahead and drive the more powerful cars. All these drivers have the ability to steal the Championship from under the nose of the B-seeds, given the

right vehicle.

Clearly this could change the course of this year's championship, and the exact working of this new rule is yet to be fully understood. In the long term it is an inevitable decision which follows on Fisa's 1986 ruling against the supercars. It will bring the Middle East Championship back in line with the rest of the world, and also open up the events to the ordinary drivers. In this respect the ruling has to be welcomed by all those with the benefit of the sport at heart.

Fisa are also planning to implement new safety measures, but there are fears that some requirements are unworkable in practice. Ottmar Lange, in his capacity as spokesman for the (KTMSD) KT Club Motor Sports Division, said that he would be seeking clarification of the rulings.

Joyner-Kersee named Athlete of the Year

NEW YORK, Jan 25, (AP): Track and field star Jackie Joyner-Kersee, considered the finest all-around woman's athlete since Babe Didrikson Zaharias, was named today as the Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for 1987.

Joyner-Kersee's victory, coming one day after sprinter Ben Johnson of Canada was selected Male Athlete of the Year, completed a sweep by track and field athletes of the AP's year-end honours. It was only the third time in the 57-year history of the awards that athletes from the same sport were chosen in the same year.

Selected

The first was in 1945, when golfers Zaharias and Byron Nelson were named, and the second was in 1981 when tennis players John McEnroe and Tracy Austin were selected.

In balloting by 244 sports writers and broadcasters from throughout the United States, Joyner-Kersee received 128 first-

place votes, 68 seconds and 16 thirds for a total of 880 points, with points allotted on a 5-3-1 basis.

Tennis player Steffi Graf of West Germany, winner of 11 tournaments, including the French Open, and winner of 75 of 77 matches in 1987, finished with 806 points. She garnered 108 first, 82 seconds and 20 thirds.

Another tennis star, Martina Navratilova, the 1983 and 1986 Female Athlete of the Year who won the Wimbledon and US Open titles last year, was a distant third with 10 firsts, 26 seconds and 54 thirds for 182 points.

Completing the top five were figure skater Katarina Witt of East Germany, with six firsts, places and 140 points, and pro golfer Ayako Okamoto of Japan, 68 points.

The awards to Joyner-Kersee and Johnson will be presented by the Tampa Sports Club at a banquet in Florida Feb 26.

Haas triumphs in classic

INDIAN WELLS, California, Jan 25, (Reuters): Jay Haas captured the seventh victory of his 11-year pro career today as he compiled a five day score of 22-under-par 338 in the \$1 million Bob Hope Classic.

The victory was worth \$180,000. David Edwards birdied the final two holes on the Indian Wells course and slipped into second place at 20-under-par 340 and earned \$108,000. Bob Tway

finished alone in third place after his even-par-round of 72 gave him a 341 total.

Paul Azinger, the 1987 Player of the Year, was in third at the start of the day but fell into a tie for tenth place at 345 after shooting a round of three-over-par 75. Most of Azinger's problems came on two holes as he took five putts from the back fringe of the fourth green and also took four putts from off the fringe of the eleventh green.

Canadian edges out Zurbriggen

LEUKERBAD, Switzerland, Jan 25, (AP): Felix Belczyk posted Canada's first win in a World Cup super-G race today, taking advantage of changing weather to edge defending overall champion Pirmin Zurbriggen into second place.

Later heavy snowfall forced organisers to stop the race after the 73rd of 110 starters. But race officials said the event would count, awarding World Cup points to the top 15 finishers as usual.

Belczyk, starting 32nd, clocked a best time of 1 minute, 51.20 seconds for his first victory in four seasons on the circuit. Zurbriggen, the super-G world champion, went down earlier and faced continuous snowfall and heavier fog. The Swiss ace was timed in 1:51.69 over the long 2,570-metre course, nearly half a second slower than Belczyk.

Heinz Holzer of Italy took third place in 1:51.85. It was the best World Cup showing ever in his eight-season career and followed strong performances by the Italian team in two Leukerbad downhill races over the weekend.

Finished

Markus Wasmeier of West Germany, a co-favourite who won the winter's only other super-G to date, finished fourth, 0.8 seconds behind.

Zurbriggen smiled broadly in the finish area after posting the best time as 10th starter. But Belczyk, 26, dashed his hopes for a second season victory when he speeded up on the lower part of the hill.

Still, Zurbriggen's fifth runner-up finish of the winter was worth 20 points, melting away half the advantage of overall Cup leader Alberto Tomba.

Tomba was faster than Zurbriggen on the top of the course but dropped out in the middle, leaving the Italian with an unchanged total of 206 points. Zurbriggen's Tomba's only serious rival and a better all-round skier, is 20 points behind. Wasmeier leads the super-G standings with 37 points after two of four races this winter, two points ahead of Zurbriggen.

Snowdrifts created an irregular course that hampered many early racers on fast bends near the top. Swiss veteran Peter Mueller was a notable example. About 30 centimetres of snow fell overnight, and bad weather delayed the start for an hour. Continuing snowfall and rolling fog made for tough conditions once the racers were let loose.

Mini-rugby players to tour Bahrain



McAree: organiser

THE annual Bahrain mini-rugby tour is scheduled for Feb 24 to 26. Organisers Hugh McAree and Geoff Bennett are expecting upwards of 80 people, including players and parents to travel.

Three groups will be represented in what has become an annual and most enjoyable fixture. On the last three visits Kuwait have emerged victorious but the departure of some key players to boarding school will make their task all the more daunting this year especially in the age group of 9-11 year olds.

Extra

Coaches McAree and Bennett have instilled a philosophy of open free flowing rugby which pleases spectators and players alike. The boys will have an extra incentive to perform well as Bahrain T.V. intend to feature highlights of the tour in their sporting programme.

Bahrain will be anxious to avenge previous defeats and an exciting series of games will be keenly contested. Further details regarding the tour which is being organised by KMMC travel can be obtained from Hugh McAree (office 4731087) or Geoff Bennett (home 5720831).

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Cash threatened during Open

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 25, (AP): Coach Ian Barclay received a number of phone calls threatening Wimbledon champion Pat Cash during the Australian Open, a Melbourne newspaper reported today.

The Melbourne Sun said Barclay and his wife, Jackie, both received calls before and during the two-week event, which ended yesterday with Cash losing the men's singles final.

Aware

The report was written by Bruce Matthews, Cash's official biographer.

Cash was only made aware of the threats after Mats Wilander of Sweden ousted him 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 3-6, 6-1, 8-6 in the men's final.

The calls related to Cash playing in South Africa last year. Barclay was reported as saying he had been nervous for two weeks.

"We don't live in Chicago," he said. "This is supposed to be a wonderful country where people don't threaten and intimidate."

Barclay said he did not report the phone calls to the police "because that may have inflamed it."

A number of anti-apartheid protesters stood outside the stadium waving placards before yesterday's final.

Anti-apartheid groups threw black rubber balls on the court during Cash's first-round match against Thomas Muster of Austria.

Jackie Barclay said one of the calls was particularly unpleasant.

"It was a well-spoken English voice who said Pat had 24 hours to send a letter signed that he would not play in South Africa again," she told the Sun.

Johnson fails to break 60m mark

SHERBROOKE, Quebec, Jan 25, (Reuters): Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson came within a whisker of both shattering his own world record and suffering a potentially serious injury in a 60-metre race at the University of Sherbrooke Indoor Athletics Meet yesterday.

Johnson, who holds almost every sprint record, fell six one-hundredths of a second short of tying his world mark of 6.41, but it was the end of the Grand Prix race — that provided the most excitement and a brief moment of concern.

Tumbled

As he crossed the finish line, his momentum carried him up the track incline and he tumbled over some padding which protected the runners from hitting the railing.

Johnson fell over the barrier and landed on the floor, a drop of about five feet.

"I grabbed onto the curtain—that's what helped," said Johnson, referring to the net-like material beyond the railing.

"If I hadn't done that, I might have landed on my neck and got hurt pretty badly."

In bracing himself for the fall, Johnson said he numbed his finger while grabbing the curtain and slightly hurt his back when he landed on the floor.

After one false start, Johnson did not get his usual burst from the starting line, a setback that he attributed to a race official warning him to keep his hands closer to his body.

Johnson normally likes to use a wider stance, with his hands sometimes coming close to spreading into the other lane.

For almost 45 metres, American Brian Cooper, in the lane beside Johnson, was at his side, but Cooper was left behind by a Johnson burst, finishing five one-hundredths of a second behind, in 6.52.

In the pole-vault competition, American vaulter Billy Olson, whose 1986 mark of 5.93 is second in the world to the 5.97 set by Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union last year, failed in three attempts at 5.40, in his first vault.

The event was won by American Greg Duplantz with a vault of 5.40 metres.

The meet did not produce any records at the world level.



Johnson: escapes injury

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